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ARAB TIMES

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**Cruise liner
sinks in
collision with
cargo ship**

ATHENS, Oct 21, (Reuters): At least two people died and 72 were injured when an Italian cargo ship and a Greek cruise liner collided outside the port of Piraeus, near Athens, police said.

The 7,000-tonne cruise liner Jupiter, carrying 475 British students and 120 crew, sank after the collision and at least 60 people jumped into the sea.

"We heard a great noise and the ship immediately started to sink. We had no time to reach the rescue boats...the passengers were young kids who were crying hysterically," a crew member told Reuters.

Jumped

At least 60 passengers had jumped into the sea from the liner, he said.

A spokesman for Epirotiki Lines, which owns the Jupiter, said the liner's passengers were mostly school children.

Rescue teams rushed to the area and all Athens hospitals were put on alert to treat the injured.

"My God, they are all small kids. It is an incredible tragedy whose dimensions we do not know yet," a doctor treating the injured told Reuters.

The shipping company spokesman said the rescue teams had trouble finding passengers in the sea because of darkness.

He said the Italian ship crashed into the liner's left side some 1-1/2 miles off Piraeus, as it was coming out of port.

Athens Radio reported that the students were having dinner in the Jupiter's dining room when the ships collided.

Gulf talks

UNITED NATIONS, Oct 21, (Reuters): The foreign ministers of Iran and Iraq will resume peace talks in Geneva on Oct 31. UN sources said today.

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جنی بہان پر اسرائیل کا
انتقامی حملہ
پکار دشمن میں قیامت خر
سندری طوفان
اسلامی مالک خوارک
کے گران میں تعاون کریں
کے مارکس کے خلاف
مدرسے کی تاریخیں
پیامیں اور کی کوئی نہ
اجالس تو میریں ہو گوا
سری لانکا میں حکمران پارٹی
کار کن ہاں
شارجہ ٹرانی میں دیت
اعظیزت ہمارت کو رادیا

WEATHER

FAIR weather with light north east wind.
Sunrise: 6:30 am. 10:00 pm.
High water: 4:00 pm. 10:00 pm.
Low water: 4:00 pm.
Sunrise: 5:53 am.
Sunset: 5:11 pm.
Maximum temperature recorded:
Kuwait: 33°C 91°F
Ahmadi: 30°C 86°F
Faijaka: 30°C 86°F
Maximum temperature expected:
Kuwait: 33°C 91°F
Ahmadi: 30°C 86°F
Faijaka: 30°C 86°F
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 49 per cent
Ahmadi: 54 per cent
Faijaka: 55 per cent
Maximum humidity expected:
Kuwait: 40 per cent
Ahmadi: 50 per cent
Faijaka: 50 per cent

Simultaneous attacks on Sidon and Mashgara

Israeli warplanes hit targets in Lebanon

SIDON, Oct 21, (Agencies): Waves of Israeli warplanes roared into Lebanon today, blasting Palestinian and pro-Iranian bases in apparent revenge for a suicide car bombing that killed seven Israeli soldiers two days ago.

Police said 15 people perished and 35 were wounded in seven bombing runs staged by 12 Israeli fighter-bombers and two helicopter gunships in south and southeast Lebanon.

The main targets of the 30-minute air strike were training bases and ammunition dumps of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah and the PLO near the port city of Sidon and the Bekaa Valley town of Mashgara.

Sidon, provincial capital of South Lebanon, is 25 miles (40 kilometres) from Beirut. Mashgara, which faces the forward-most lines of the Syrian Army in the Bekaa, is 16 miles (26 kilometres) east of Sidon.

Ammunition

The fundamental Shi'ite Muslim Hezbollah claimed responsibility for Wednesday's car bombing, which also wounded eight Israeli soldiers and two Lebanese women.

A police spokesman said the air raid killed eight people and wounded 15 in the Sidon region. Seven others were killed and 20 wounded in Mashgara.

The raiding jets scored direct hits on an ammunition depot belonging to Hezbollah near the Palestinian refugee camp of Mich Mich on the outskirts of Sidon, setting it ablaze, the spokesman said.

Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, Hezbollah's spiritual guide, said today's air raid targeted

Rockets

Two helicopter gunships later joined in attacking Mashgara, a Hezbollah stronghold, about 200 metres (yards) west of the Syrians' positions in the Bekaa.

The warplanes, according to the police spokesman, fired 18 rockets into two bases used by Hezbollah in Mashgara as the gunships strafed the town and its surroundings.

He said Syrian troops were not involved in the confrontation.

The spokesman said two training bases run by PLO chairman Yasser Arafat's mainstream Fatah faction in Mich Mich and the nearby camp of Ein El-Hilweh were also hit.

Commandos fired anti-aircraft guns and shoulder-launched surface-to-air SAM-7 missiles at the Israeli planes, which bombed both areas for more than an hour, witnesses said.

Clutching their children and a few belongings, terrified refugees ran out of Mich Mich minutes after the air strikes while rescue teams struggled to drag bodies from the rubble.

Rescue work was delayed by explosions from two ammunition dumps — one belonging to Fatah and the other to the Tawheed group.

Mu'm Shabatiyah, a Fatah official, told reporters in Mich Mich that the Israeli air raid was aimed at residential and military areas and would be met by increased attacks on Israel.

Hezbollah put its forces on alert after the car bomb attack and threatened yesterday to harm two Israeli soldiers captured in 1986 in event of the much-expected Israeli retaliation.

"Most of the wounded in Mashgara were civilians at the clinic," the spokesman said.

The police spokesman said two formations made up of six fighter-bombers each carried out the simultaneous attacks in Sidon and Mashgara at 10:30 am (0800 GMT).

Rockets

Fawzi Mattar, 37, said she saw the first rocket slamming into the depot when the air raid — Israel's 16th in Lebanon this year — started.

"The rocket shot straight through the gate. It caused a huge explosion accompanied by a big ball of fire and several explosions followed," said Mattar, a Palestinian who lives at Mich Mich with her parents.

Retaliation

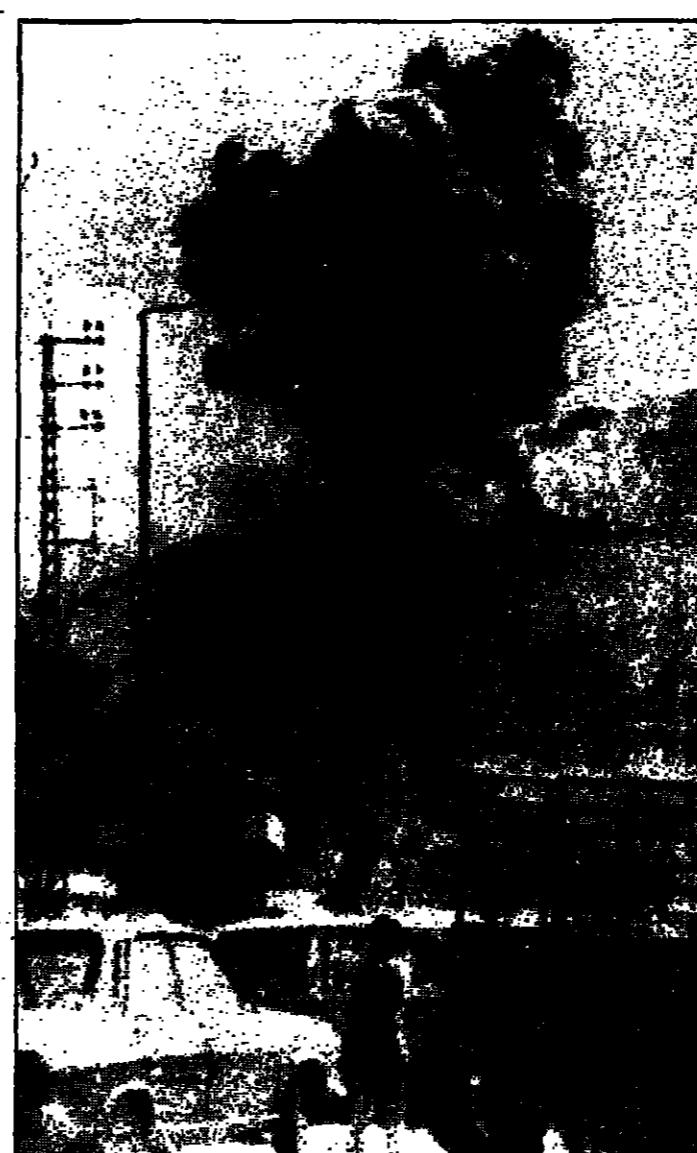
Mattar said several refugees had evacuated the camp after Wednesday's car bombing in anticipation of Israel's retaliation.

"We didn't leave. We don't have any other place to go to," Mattar said.

Hiam Saleh, 18, also said her father had refused to evacuate his family of seven.

"We stayed in an air raid shelter in the camp, but occasionally

(Continued on Page 2)



Residents of the city of Sidon watch black smoke rise over a Palestinian refugee camp during the Israeli raid. (Reuter photo)

Kuwait Navy detonates mine in Gulf

MANAMA, Bahrain, Oct 21, (Agencies): Kuwaiti naval experts have detonated a mine found floating in the northern Gulf, the official news agency KUNA said today. It was at least the fifth mine reported found in the area in the last two months.

The news agency, quoting a Defence Ministry source, said the mine was discovered by a Kuwaiti naval patrol boat and was "detonated at the time." It did not say when the incident occurred, or what type of mine it was.

Cause

US officials say there are perhaps as many as 20 mines still in the Gulf, most of them in the northern waters where both Iran and Iraq sowed the contact-type explosives to protect or block access to local ports.

They say the menace of floating mines is increasing because of winter storms that will cause them to break loose from their underwater moorings and drift southward with prevailing currents.

King Fahd orders halt to anti-Iran media campaign

Bahrain, Oct 21, (Agencies): King Fahd of Saudi Arabia took a further step to improve relations with Iran, calling a halt to a war of words in the media.

The official Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said King Fahd on Wednesday ordered the Saudi press and radio to stop attacking Tehran.

"The problems with Iran are limited and cannot be continued," King Fahd said.

Saudi Arabia cut diplomatic links with Tehran in April this year as relations continued to deteriorate after riots during the haj pilgrimage to Makkah last year.

SPA said: "King Fahd has issued orders to the information minister for newspapers and radio not to attack Iran on anything at all."

Commons, said the size of the patrol would not be reduced.

"The reduced tension in the region means that the conditions are right for the Armilla Patrol to move away from closely accompanying British merchant shipping to patrolling the areas of the Gulf most used by British shipping," said Younger.

Iran has withdrawn the armed speedboats it had used to attack merchant ships in the southern Gulf from Abu Musa island, diplomatic sources reported yesterday.

He said that while the central and southern waters were generally clear of mines, some lying on the bottom still posed a threat to shipping.

Britain's three warships in the Gulf, which are known as the Armilla Patrol, are to stop shadowing British vessels and patrol a wider area because of the reduced tension, Defence Secretary George Younger said in London.

Younger, speaking during a defence debate in the House of

Commons, said the size of the patrol would not be reduced.

"The reduced tension in the region means that the conditions are right for the Armilla Patrol to move away from closely accompanying British merchant shipping to patrolling the areas of the Gulf most used by British shipping," said Younger.

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INTERNATIONAL

40,000 march in support of Serbian leader

BELGRADE, Oct 21. (Agencies): An estimated 40,000 Serbs demonstrated in the predominantly Albanian province of Kosovo in support of a Serbian leader given a no-confidence vote by the Communist Party a day earlier, reports from the region.

Protesters in Kosovo Police, near the Kosovo capital of Pristina, yesterday shouted their disapproval of Wednesday's vote by the party's central committee against Dusan Cekic, a close ally of Serbian party leader Slobodan Milosevic.

Cekic offered his resignation from the ruling Yugoslav party Presidium but it has not been accepted. The no-confidence vote does not require a resignation because it is not binding, but it does signal the leadership's displeasure.

Persecution

The vote was viewed as a blow to Milosevic and his campaign for Serbia to exert more control over Kosovo and Vojvodina, two autonomous provinces in Serbian territory. Minority Serbs and Montenegrins in Kosovo have been protesting persecution by the ethnic Albanian majority.

About 40,000 people gathered near a school and, later, at a railroad station to express their support of Cekic in a non-violent demonstration that lasted about six hours. There were no reports of arrests.

"We shall not give up Cekic," the demonstrators shouted at one point.

Marko Orlanic, a member of the Yugoslav Communist Party Presidium, urged the demonstrators to exercise a "little more patience," to return to work and school and to let the central committee solve the problems in Kosovo, which is in southern Serbia along the Albanian border.

Boycott

At the same time, more than 10,000 Serbian secondary school and university students continued to boycott classes begun early this month to protest persecution by ethnic Albanians.

The students originally planned

to end their boycott once the central committee resolves the persecution issue, a move that was expected by Wednesday. But the boycott continued when the committee session did not meet their expectations.

The central committee is expected to meet again in 10 days to again try to tackle the worst political and economic crisis to affect the multi-national Balkan nation of 23 million people since World War II.

The group may then carry out an expected purge of one-third of the party leadership and will discuss Cekic's offer to resign.

Meanwhile, legislators debated changes to the 1974 constitution which federal authorities have proposed as a way of extracting the country from its worst crisis since the communists took power at the end of World War Two.

Proposal

The most sensitive constitutional proposal under discussion in Parliament was an amendment which would strengthen the ability of the federal authorities to make Yugoslavia's six republics and two autonomous provinces fund the armed forces.

Slovenia, the most politically liberal and economically advanced republic, opposes the change. Slovene politicians want to limit federal powers in their republic, and the Slovene press has questioned the military's role in Yugoslav life.

French porn film

PARIS, Oct 21. (Reuter): A pornographic movie was shifted to late-night television viewing yesterday after the council of state, France's legal watchdog, threatened a one-million-franc (\$160,000) fine if it was shown at peak time.

Private television channel La Cino had planned to screen "Joy and Joan" by French director Jacques Saurin at 8.30 last evening.

But a committee decided after seeing the film that its screening would "show disrespect for childhood and adolescence."

The students originally planned

Democrat's national field director resigns

Dukakis compares Bush's campaign to Watergate

NEW YORK, Oct 21. (AP): Michael Dukakis compared George Bush's campaign to the Watergate scandal of former President Richard Nixon, saying "truth was the first casualty" in both instances. Meanwhile, Bush received new police endorsements.

Democratic Gov. Dukakis and Republican Vice-President Bush distanced a distance on the campaign trail before sheathing their political swords and dining together at a charity dinner last night in New York City.

Also Thursday, Dukakis' national field director resigned after saying Bush should be

forthcoming about a rumour that rippled through Wall Street on Wednesday.

The remarks by Donna Brazile to reporters also led Dukakis to apologize directly to Bush at the New York dinner.

Brazile had said that "I wasn't on the stock market yesterday, but I understood they got a little concerned that George was going to the White House with somebody other than Barbara (his wife). ... The American people have every right to know if Barbara Bush will share that bed with him in the White House."

Wall Street analysts attributed an abrupt market decline on

Wednesday to a rumour that the Washington Post planned to publish a damaging story about Bush. The Post did not publish such a story.

Earlier, Dukakis, urged by supporters to get tough in the face of polls that show him trailing Bush in the presidential race leading up to the Nov 8 national election, campaigned in New Haven, Connecticut.

Learned

"Truth was the first casualty in the Nixon White House and it was the first casualty in the Bush campaign," Dukakis said yesterday on the campaign trail.

"Above all, the truth should matter a lot in a presidential campaign because as we learned in Watergate, it matters a lot in the Oval office."

He was referring to the Watergate scandal, which began with a break-in at the Democratic national headquarters during the 1972 presidential campaign and crumbled the Republican administration of President Nixon.

"I believe the American people value the truth in politics and I'm going to do everything I can to make sure truth wins and that we win on the eighth of November," the Democratic nominee said.

Bush, campaigning in a state

once considered a stronghold for Dukakis, travelled to New York City to receive police endorsements and to campaign in a Democratic neighbourhood. He spoke near the spot where police officer Edward Byrne was shot last February while guarding a witness in a drug case.

"It's time for America to take back the streets," Bush said in receiving the endorsements of about 30 police organisations.

He and Dukakis have made much of endorsements from law-enforcement organisations during a campaign in which Bush has sought to portray Dukakis as soft on crime.

Sakharov to visit US in November

MOSCOW, Oct 21. (Reuters): Physicist and human rights campaigner Andrei Sakharov said today that Soviet authorities had lifted a long-standing ban on him travelling abroad and he will go to the United States next month.

"I shall take part in the forthcoming trip," Sakharov told a news conference, referring to a Washington conference organised by the International Foundation for the Survival and Development of Humanity. He is a member of the board of the non-government group.

His announcement followed his election late yesterday to the ruling Presidium of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, a mark of official recognition of his professional eminence.

Sakharov, 67, "father" of the Soviet H-bomb, had been banned from leaving the country because of his knowledge of top secret material when he worked for the Soviet nuclear programme.

"The decision is that I have the right to leave the Soviet Union," he said, adding that the move reflected the changes in the Soviet Union under Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

"I consider the great changes which have taken place in our country in recent years made this decision possible. Of course, the personal effort of individuals

also played a great part — and in particular the efforts by leaders of our country."

Since his release, Sakharov, 67, has kept up his criticism of the Soviet human rights records while at the same time expressing support for Gorbachev's Perestroika campaign for political, social and economic reform.

On his exile the Nobel peace prize laureate was stripped of several honours including the Order of Lenin. But he remained a member of the academy, to which he was elected at the age of 32, the youngest person ever to join.

Other new members elected to the 47-strong presidium included Leonid Abalkin, a leading reformist economist and head of the academy's institute of economics.

Changes

One of the most outspoken critics of outdated methods in Soviet economic management, Abalkin has called for radical changes in the planning system to allow for greater flexibility and individual initiative.

His appointment was offset to some degree by that of political scientist Georgy Arbatov, a self-proclaimed supporter of Perestroika who is however associated with the "era of stagnation" under Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev.

Mitterrand to visit Egypt

CAIRO, Oct 21. (Reuters): President Francois Mitterrand of France will pay a flying visit to Egypt next Tuesday for Middle East talks with President Hosni Mubarak, a close friend, a French embassy spokesman said today.

Mitterrand's five-hour trip to the Suez Canal city of Ismailia, where he and Mubarak will hold about three hours of informal private talks, will rank as his first official overseas visit of his second term of office, the spokesman said.

"It all started with a telephone call on May 10th 2200 hours," he told Reuters. "Mubarak was the first foreign leader to congratulate Mitterrand on his re-election. Mitterrand promised to make his first visit abroad to Egypt."

The French President has since addressed the United Nations in New York and paid an unofficial visit to Washington.

Schedule

He will fly straight from Paris in his Falcon 900 executive jet and return the same night, a day out of a crowded schedule to underscore his esteem for Egypt and friendship with Mubarak, French officials said.

France and Egypt have both campaigned for an international Middle East peace conference under UN auspices and Mitterrand has proposed that a preparatory committee should be set up.

French officials said he was keen not to let momentum fade — as it has done in the months before the forthcoming US and Israeli elections.

Subjects on the agenda will include the conference proposal, Palestinian plans to declare an independent state, the crisis in Lebanon, the Gulf situation and French support for Mubarak's economic reforms.

Joan heads toward Central America

Hurricane resumes its deadly trek

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, Oct 21. (AP): Hurricane Joan resumed its deadly trek toward Central America today after it's heavy rains caused flooding and mudslides in Venezuela and Colombia that killed at least 26 people.

The storm, after remaining stationary yesterday, resumed its westward movement today packing winds of 176 kilometres per hour (110 miles per hour).

Joan's torrential rains unleashed mudslides on Wednesday and yesterday that swallowed wooden huts and killed at least 11 people in the poorest neighbourhoods of Caracas, Venezuela.

The storm killed 15 people in Colombia, injured 50, and left tens of thousands homeless when it swept the Guajira peninsula on Monday.

Strength

Joan was only at tropical storm strength when it hit the South America countries, but has since strengthened over water.

More than 37,000 people have fled coastal areas of Costa Rica and Nicaragua, where the government declared a state of emergency. The two countries were under a hurricane watch, while hurricane warnings were in effect for the Colombian islands of San Andres and neighbouring Albrook and Providencia.

"It's better to leave before we get killed," said Teresa Wilson, who fled the Nicaraguan coastal village of Bluff with her seven children.

At 1300 GMT today, Joan's centre was about 105 kilometres (65 miles) southeast of San Andres and about 275 kilometres (170 miles) east-southeast of Bluefields, Nicaragua, said a statement from the US National Hurricane Centre.

The statement said rainfall of 25 centimetres (10 inches) or more accompanied the storm,

and that even greater amounts may hit Nicaragua, Panama and Costa Rica in the next few days.

Bob Sheets, hurricane centre director, said forecasters expected the hurricane to hit Nicaragua or Costa Rica today or tomorrow.

Nicaraguan officials questioned the readiness of its government agencies, relief organisations and coastal residents, some of whom live in wooden homes on stilts.

"We make a formal call upon the international community to respond in rapid fashion with its co-operation," Budget Minister Enrique Sotelo said.

Sotelo said if Joan continued straight for Nicaragua, "the economic consequences would be enormously severe and would force greater sacrifices upon the people."

About 7,000 people fled Nicaragua's remote Miskito coast and two small islands by boat, and schools were closed nationwide.

President Daniel Ortega enacted an emergency law banning communications media from reporting unauthorised news about Joan.

The opposition daily La Prensa called the decree "absurd and illegal" and said the law made it "illegally impossible to report the hurricane."

Evacuated

In Costa Rica, the national emergency council said at least 30,000 people were evacuated from Puerto Limon, a town of 20,000 about 160 kilometres (100 miles) southeast of the capital of San Jose, and 14 other towns along the northeast coast.

About 350 people decided to stay in Puerto Limon and ride out the storm, said an official with the national assistance committee who asked not to be identified. People patrolled near-empty streets to prevent looting.

Whale rescuers pin hopes on ice-breaker barge

ANCHORAGE, Alaska, Oct 21. (Reuters): Scientists today pinned their hopes of rescue for three California grey whales trapped by thick Arctic ice on a helicopter dangling a giant block of concrete and an ice-breaker barge.

The whales, the largest weighing up to 16 tons and measuring nearly 40 feet (12 metres), have been trapped for about two weeks by two-foot-thick (65-cm-thick) ice near the isolated Eskimo village of Barrow on Alaska's north slope.

Biologists said there was no immediate threat to the lives of the three whales — named by scientists Bonnet Crossbeak and Bone — but cautioned they would eventually die if two holes in the ice, kept open round the clock by teams of rescuers, were allowed to freeze over.

Ex-pilot believes human error caused ...

(Continued from Page 1)

Officials said one probe was being supervised by the police department of Ahmedabad, while another was being conducted by the airline.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation opened the third inquiry, to which the Americans were to lend their expertise.

At Ahmedabad Civil Hospital, doctors said two of five passengers who miraculously survived the disaster with injuries were flown to Bombay. The other three were reported in stable condition.

Doctors said a total of 129 sets of remains had been recovered from the crash site of Indian Airlines flight IC 113, which was carrying 135 passengers and crew from Bombay. It was preparing to land when it ploughed through a tree and some power lines and then smashed into a rice paddy and exploded.

P.C. Sen, an official of the Civil Aviation Ministry, retracting a statement he made on Wednesday, said the cockpit voice recorder tape had been found intact and was not missing. The device and the cockpit flight data recorder were sent for analysis to New Delhi, he said.

Meanwhile, police and forestry officers recovered 13 more bodies of people killed when a propeller-driven Fokker Friendship aircraft smashed into a jungle-covered hillside near Gauhati, the capital of northeastern Assam state, slightly less than two hours after the Indian Airlines disaster.

Officials said that altogether 30 bodies had been found amid the remains of the plane, which was owned by Vayudoot, a small government-run carrier that serves mostly remote locations. It was the first accident involving a Vayudoot aircraft since the company began operations in 1981.

Israeli warplanes hit ...

(Continued from Page 1)

I came out to watch the planes attacking," Saleh said.

"She said 'very few civilians were wounded by shrapnel.' Most of the casualties were combatants manning the depot and Fatah base."

Israeli gunners stationed in Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone" of South Lebanon also hammered the town and the nearby village of Al Luwayzeh with 155mm howitzers, he said.

Gen. Michel Aoun, who heads the Christian military cabinet of Lebanon's dual government, announced the Israeli air attack.

"We denounce this attack on Lebanese territory and call on all foreign states to refrain from interfering in Lebanon's internal affairs," Aoun said in a statement.

Iraq repeats offer ...

(Continued from Page 1)

Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, said captives should be freed after the Aug 20 ceasefire was consolidated and forces were withdrawn behind international borders.

"We want the release of the POWs to be speeded up within the framework of Resolution 598," the Iranian news agency IRNA, quoted Rafsanjani as saying.

He said Baghdad's offer was intended to deflect mounting domestic pressure for the return of prisoners.

Rejection

An Iranian Foreign Ministry statement, read on Iranian television, repeated Iran's rejection of the Iraqi offer but said Tehran was ready to repatriate a number of sick and disabled prisoners if Iraq did the same.

Marcoses indicted

(Continued from Page 1)

NEW YORK, Oct 21. (Reuters): Ousted Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos and his wife Imelda were indicted today on charges that they used illegally acquired millions of dollars to secretly purchase Manhattan real estate.

Don't attack Army, Burmese warned

BANGKOK, Oct 21, (Reuters): Burma's military rulers have told political parties preparing for planned general elections they will not tolerate speeches or actions that might damage the unity of the Army.

State radio, in a dispatch monitored in Bangkok, broadcast a statement signed by head of the military council Saw Maung saying some political parties had taken advantage of the right to campaign granted after last month's military takeover.

"They have made speeches and engaged in organisational activities to divide and undermine the unity of the armed forces," it said.

Such activity was banned, the statement said, adding: "Strict action will be taken if this prohibition is violated."

More than 20 have registered and begun canvassing for votes across the country, although campaigning is limited by continued restrictions including an overnight curfew and a ban on outdoor meetings.

Aung San Suu Kyi, general secretary of the main opposition

National League for Democracy (NLD), interviewed by telephone from Bangkok, said the military appeared to believe some parties were overstepping the mark in their campaigning.

Consequences

She said NLD officials were looking into the possible consequences of the military statement.

No date for the elections has been fixed, but the state commission preparing the poll has made clear it will not be before early next year.

The radio also reported further administrative steps to kill the former one-party socialist state, which was imposed by the Army after the 1962 coup and whose repressive policies and inefficient economy impoverished the once-thriving country.

A decree said the country was to be called the Union of Burma, instead of the Socialist Union of Burma. The new name had already been used in several announcements.

It dropped the word "people's" from the title of several bodies and functions.

Suharto rules out change in policy

JAKARTA, Oct 21, (Reuters): President Suharto said yesterday communist and liberal politics were both foreign to the national character and ruled out any change in the political path Indonesia has followed during his 22-year rule.

"The development of Indonesia's national ideology ... through national consensus gives us all strength," he said at the opening of Indonesia's ruling Golkar Party congress.

"With this path there is no dictatorship by the majority or tyranny by the minority. All groups feel they can belong, be they strong or weak, big or little ... not many voices, but one big strong one."

The 67-year-old leader spoke after his Vice-President Sudarmono said he would step down as chairman of Golkar which won more than 70 per cent of the votes in last year's election.

Political analysts said that as party chairman for 10 years and Vice-President, Sudarmono was a likely candidate to be next President of Indonesia.

But his appointment as Vice-President last March caused unease among the country's

powerful military which thought him too left-wing. Speculation has been rife he would quit as Golkar chairman.

In an interview this week, Sudarmono denied rumours he was once involved with a leftist youth group and in a 1948 communist coup attempt.

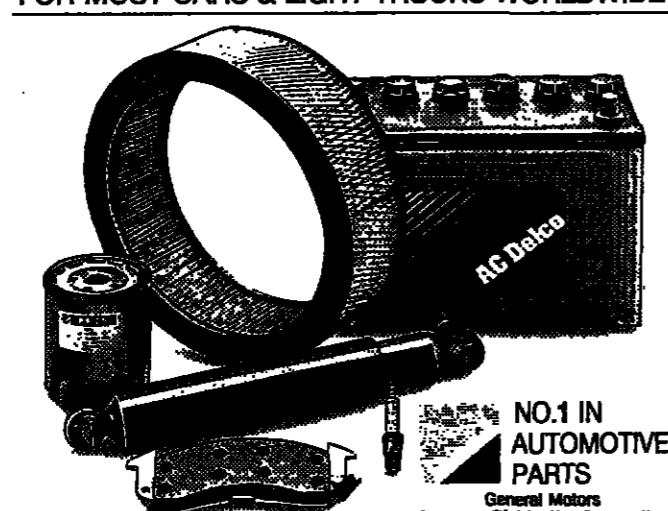
Communism has been banned since Suharto came to power in 1965 after a second attempt by communists to grab power that was followed by a massacre in which up to 500,000 people died.

Before the coup Indonesia had the world's third largest Communist Party.

"Communist and political ideologies based on class conflict are foreign to the personality of Indonesia," Suharto said.

He said Golkar, Indonesia's largest political organisation with some 25 million members, was the "best channel for people's political aspirations."

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1,500 missing after storm in Bangladesh

DHAKA, Oct 21, (AP): A severe storm lashed southern Bangladesh and battered coastal cities with high waves, and as many as 1,500 were missing, news reports and witnesses said today.

The storm, packing winds of 120 kilometres per hour and 4-metre-high waves, hit coastal cities on the Bay of Bengal early Wednesday. It knocked down thousands of mud-and-straw houses, snapped power lines and overturned fishing boats and trawlers, the report said.

One person was killed and more than 1,000 were injured, according to police and news reports.

"We had (no) ... prior bad weather warning. It came all of a sudden," one resident, Abdul Mannan, told the Bengali language daily, the Dainik Bangla.

The government-run newspaper said at least six trawlers carrying 40 fishermen sank off the town of Cox's Bazar early Wednesday. All 40 were missing and feared dead, it said.

30 dying daily in Khartoum refugee camp

KHARTOUM, Oct 21, (Reuters): Thirty people are dying every day of malaria or typhoid at a refugee camp in Khartoum, a Sudanese newspaper said.

Guiding Star said cases of disease had risen sharply in the past few days at Abu Showak, home for about 50,000 of the one million refugees who have crowded into Khartoum to escape civil war and famine in southern Sudan.

The English-language weekly said five people died in two hours on Oct 16 when its reporter visited the camp, one of 41 ringed in Khartoum.

It said no one from the Health Ministry or foreign aid agencies had visited Abu Showak since malaria and typhoid broke out simultaneously in September.

The camp had no medical supplies and also lacked running water, electricity and drains, it said.

Marxists kill ruling party member

Sri Lanka suspends anti-rebel operations

COLOMBO, Oct 21, (Reuters): Suspected Marxist rebels killed a senior ruling United National Party member today, only hours after the government said it had suspended operations against them, police said.

The song, which may appear to belong to everyone, is actually still under copyright, and the company that owns it has come on the market, according to a report in yesterday's New York Times.

Birchtree Ltd, which copyrighted the song in 1935, is expected to fetch \$12 million. "Happy Birthday" brings in revenues of \$1 million a year, the paper said.

The song was written by two Sunday schoolteachers, Patty and Mildred Hill of Louisville, Kentucky, and was published in their book "Song Stories for the Sunday School."

The original words of the song were "Good Morning to You, Good Morning to You, Good Morning dear Children, Good Morning to You." The sisters added the birthday words later.

Although the song is sung and played thousands of times a day, copyright is only paid when it is performed in public. For example, the makers of one digital watch that can be programmed to play the tune every hour on the owner's birthday pay Birchtree a penny a watch.

"Happy Birthday" also reaped copyright payments when it was performed in the films "10," "The Great Santini," "Oh God," and "Fame."

Don't eat locusts

RABAT, Oct 21, (AP): Morocco and India have decided to re-establish diplomatic relations after a break of three years, the government announced today.

Morocco severed its relations with New Delhi in 1985 following India's decision to recognise the "Saharan Arab Republic," government-in-exile of the Polisario guerrilla movement seeking independence in the former Spanish Sahara.

"He was conscious when he arrived. We are keeping him in observation. He is very comfortable," a spokeswoman at St Thomas's Hospital said.

Asked what was wrong with Callaghan, she said: "He just collapsed. They realised something was wrong with him when they went to sing another hymn and he didn't stand up."

Nuclear missiles

LONDON, Oct 21, (Reuters): The United States may triple the number of nuclear missiles stationed at its bases in Britain by the mid-1990s, according to two defence analysts.

Paul Rogers and Dan Plesch, writing in the weekly left-wing New Statesman journal, said the new forces could undermine last year's Soviet-US Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) deal which included the removal of 112 US cruise missiles from Britain.

Held in dog cage

JOHANNESBURG, Oct 21, (AP): Police are investigating claims by four black youths that they were held for 36 hours in a small cage for police dogs, a legislator said today.

Peter Gastrow, an anti-apartheid member of parliament, said that a police commander had assured him the charges would be investigated thoroughly.

Demonstration ban

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia, Oct 21, (AP): Authorities have issued a ban on unauthorised public gatherings in downtown Prague, Czech newspapers reported today.

Such meetings were tentatively scheduled to take place on Oct 28 to commemorate 70 years of Czechoslovak independence and on Oct 29 when a discussion club was to convene. Both events were to take place on downtown Wenceslas Square.

woman at Sapugaskanda, a Colombo suburb, today.

The government on Thursday ceased operations against the front for a week to try to end a spate of political killings.

Peace pact

The front, which opposes a peace pact signed with India last year in an attempt to end ethnic strife, has been blamed for more than 450 killings in the past 14 months.

The front, mainly youths of the majority Sinhalese community, is protesting against the presence of 50,000 Indian troops on the island to enforce the peace pact.

"The government has decided to suspend counter-subversive operations against politically

motivated killings for a period of one week from today the 20th October," National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said.

The government will review the situation after studying the response," he told a news conference.

Athulathmudali said the move was aimed at giving an opportunity to those who had become involved in political killings to stop such actions and adopt democratic methods of protest.

Release

Normal policing would continue and those breaking the law would be dealt with strictly, he said.

The government had decided

to expedite the release of detainees against whom no charges were to be made and to hasten the filing of complaints against those who were to be charged.

He said a total of 788 people, mostly those suspected of being members of the front, were now in custody. About 440 had been released recently.

Concessions

"The government has decided to expedite on a priority basis, the release of detainees against whom no charges will be preferred," Athulathmudali said. "The filing of indictments or complaints against those who are to be charged will also be expedited."

The People's Liberation Front is led by Rohana Wijeweepa, a

medical dropout from Moscow's Patrice Lumumba University. It opposes an India-brokered peace accord because it claims the pact gives too many concessions to Tamils who comprise 18 per cent of Sri Lanka's 16 million people.

The Tamil peace accord, signed in July 1987, calls for greater autonomy for provincial councils in the northeastern district where Tamils make up the majority. Under terms of the accord, the north and eastern provinces were merged into a single administrative unit.

But the most important of the Tamil rebels groups, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, has rejected the accord, saying it did not meet rebel expectations.

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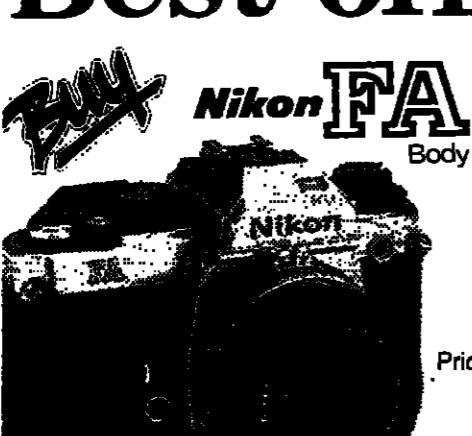
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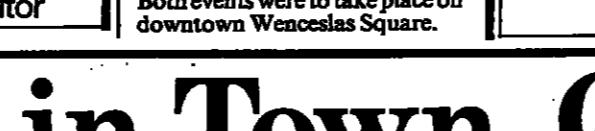
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Plans being finalised for monorail

KUWAIT Municipality is finalising plans for a mass transport fast train service according to a local daily.

The plan is based on a detailed feasibility study of available transportation system.

The municipality has already allocated routes for the new service, to be called monorail. The routes were determined in the municipality's plan for 1971. The projected cost in 1983 was estimated at KD 300 million.

The study concluded the monorail system is the best for Kuwait City due to its aesthetic appeal and based on efficiency of operation along the busiest routes in Kuwait — Kuwait-Farwaniya and Kuwait-Salmiya.

Authority looking out for locusts

KUWAIT, Oct 21, (KUNA): Watch units for the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources, in co-operation with various state agencies, have been stationed on the Kuwaiti-Saudi borders for the possible arrival of locust swarms.

The authority also warned citizens and expatriates against eating the locusts which have been sprayed with insecticides.

The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) had warned, in a bulletin, that swarms of locusts might reach Kuwait and Bahrain.

The authority has urged farmers to take the necessary precautions to avoid the extensive losses in case the country is invaded by locusts.

It also asked them to report any sighting of locusts to the control in Wafra area at 3952012, and the one in Abdali at 2700249, or at 4743872 seven days a week until 8 pm.

Upon the sighting of locusts, all farmers are urged to rush a sample to one of these control centres.

East German arts exhibition begins Monday

KUWAIT Oct 21, (KUNA): The acting secretary-general of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters (NCCAL), Dr Farouq Al Omari, on Thursday received the East German Ambassador to Kuwait Dr Kurt Merkel.

Council sources said that preparations for the East German arts exhibition, scheduled in Kuwait at the arts gallery in Abdullah Al Salem area from Monday to Nov 3, were discussed.

The exhibition will be under the auspices of State Minister for Cabinet Affairs NCCAL Chairman Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed.

The ambassador invited Kuwait to hold a Kuwaiti arts exhibition in East Germany next April.

Doctor urges breast feeding

A LOCAL survey on child nutrition has revealed that only 70 per cent of new born babies are breast fed.

Dr Seham Abdul Ghafour, a paediatrician, added that only 47 per cent of two-month old children are breast fed and the percentage declines to 8 per cent among six-month old children.

Almost 20 per cent of children in Kuwait suffer diarrhoea from food contamination and mothers are urged to breast feed their babies to prevent such health problems.

A booklet on feeding children was published by the Yarmouk Health Centre for International Child Health Day. The booklet contains advice and information gleaned from years of experience in the field, Dr Abdul Ghafour noted.

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TV CORNER

This week on KTV 2

SUNDAY
 6.00 Holy Quran
 6.10 Thundercats: cartoons
 6.30 Fast Forward: "Electricity." This episode deals with different sources of energy.
 7.00 Steel Riders: "Bad Company," Sandra and Mike fight back after a daring chase in dark alleys.
 7.30 Challenge: "Vast Continent." A group of scientists explore the southern region of Antarctica.
 8.00 News in English.
 8.40 The Flying Doctors: a team of reporters arrive in town to record the life and work of the flying doctors.
 9.30 Hooperman: John Ritter plays the title role in this half-hour comedy as a police inspector who inherits a building — and Bijoux, a dog described by Hooperman as "one of those horrible yapping creatures with bulging eyes."
 10.00 She is the Sheriff: Hilda, injured and hospitalised, has to put up with the petty quarrel of her two aunts as well. The female sheriff of a town faces a challenging job.
 10.30 Best Sellers: "Musolini." Start of series on the life of Italian Fascist leader Benito Mussolini; Premier of Italy from 1922-1943.
 11.30 News in Brief
 11.40 Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

TUESDAY
 6.00 Holy Quran
 6.10 Dinosaurs: cartoon serial
 6.30 Professor Poosangle: children's serial
 7.00 Discoveries Underwater: "Oldest Shipwreck." A diving team discovers a sunken treasure in the Mediterranean Sea.
 8.00 News in English
 8.40 Five Mile Creek: "A Few Surprises."
 9.30 Easy Street: starring Loni Anderson.
 10.00 Secrets and Mysteries: focus on the ability of Ninja Warriors.
 10.30 Edge of Darkness: police thriller. Detective Brian is attacked during investigations into the links between Northmore and an IRA faction.
 11.30 News Summary
 11.40 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

MONDAY
 6.00 Holy Quran
 6.10 Atomic Six: cartoons
 6.30 The Friends of My Friends: "Musician." This episode focuses on Pakistan, as seen by a group of young musicians learning national and folk songs from Ali Khan, an artiste living in Rawalpindi.
 7.00 Roving Report: weekly roundup of world news.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
 DAILY: 5 pm onwards: Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Friday: 9 am onwards.
 Islamic Arts Museum
 SAT-THURS: 8.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4.30 to 7.30 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts; ceramics, carpets and marine equipment. Arabian Gulf St.
 Tareq Rajab Museum
 SAT-THURS: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; FRIDAYS: 9 am to noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.
 Sadu House
 SAT-THURS: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

THEATRE

IAC
 OCT 22: 7.30 pm. An evening of entertainment will be held to mark Dussehra. A one-act comedy called Nazuk Sawari will also be presented. Open to members and their guests. For passes tel: 3904817.
 Bengal Cultural Society
 OCT 22: 8 pm. The Bengal Cultural Society will hold Bijoya Sammelan at the Mousetrap Theatre. Highlights include entertainment by children. Contact organisers for passes.

Bengali Play
 OCT 27-28: 6.30 pm. Mousetrap Theatre. The Mou-chak Group, a Bangladeshi group presents "Ballav Puran Rupkatha, a fairy tale. For reservations phone A. Karim 2627643; Dr Hyder — 5625456; Heron — 4893424.

SOCIAL

Colva Nite
 OCT 27: 8.30 pm. Messilah Beach Hotel: Colva Nite with music by the Top Ranks. For details phone 2434776; 2413884; 4310913; 5629141 (after 5 pm).

Halloween Party
 OCT 31: Children's Hall-oween pool party at Messilah Beach. Fancy dress competition, pantomime fun and pool fun games. For reservations call the hotel ext. 739/751.

Nite Flight 88
 NOV 10: SAS Hotel, The Tent. 9.30 pm: The airline staff's first get-together; lavish

EDUCATION

British Council
 OCT 25-26: 5.30 pm. A talk for students with a non-British secondary education will be held at the British Council, Mansouriya. For seat reservations call 2515512.

CINEMA

Children's Film
 OCT 26-27: A film for children, Annie, will be shown at the British Council on Oct 26, 6 pm, and Oct 27, 10.30 am. Annie dreams of a life outside the orphanage and Daddy Warbucks makes her dream come true. Duration: 123 minutes. Admission free but it is advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 2515512; 2533204.

HOTELS

At the Holiday Inn
 SHAHZAD BBQ featured every Wednesday at the poolside at 8 pm. On Wednesdays Al Dana features "sea drama on ice," on Thursdays, an Indian night offering exotic eastern cuisine is held.

Thursdays: Dine and dance to music by Arab singers at Al Andalus Night Club. Friday: fun 'n' surprises for children and parents at the weekly brunch, 11 am to 3 pm.

Sahrat Al Khaimah: Orien-



John Ritter plays Hooperman, Sundays at 9.30 pm

WEDNESDAY

6.00 Holy Quran
 6.10 My Pet Monster: cartoon serial
 6.30 Wonderstruck: this episode examines the links between tinplates and telephones and looks at recycling of waste products.
 7.00 Pals: Oscar embarks on another exciting adventure with his son, Sammy.
 7.30 Growing Pains: "Marrying Kind." Carol wants to marry. But will her parents agree?
 8.00 News in English
 8.40 Probe: "Now You See It." Austin's held responsible for a computer error.
 9.30 The Secret World: documentary

FRIDAY

4.00 Holy Quran
 4.10 Silver Hawk: cartoon serial
 4.30 Italian Football
 5.30 Walt Disney Film: "Hero." An astronaut rescues a monkey ... and by a strange occurrence, their brains are switched.

THURSDAY

6.00 Holy Quran
 6.10 Mask: cartoon serial
 6.30 Sesame Street: educational show for young viewers.
 7.30 Mac and Muttley: training dogs to detect explosives; and how chimpanzees are
 8.00 News in English
 8.40 The Highwayman: a gang is stopped from exploiting an Indian legend and taking over a uranium mine.
 9.30 The Cosby Show: Dr Huxtable fails to see his neighbour's point of view.

view. Starring: Bill Cosby.

10.00 Spectacular Sports, Bloopers and Fabulous Foul: a 30-minute show about the mishaps and misadventures of sportsmen and sportswomen.

10.30 Late Night Movie: "Streets of Justice." Starring John Laughlin, Robert Loggia. A husband seeks revenge after his wife's murderer are set free by a court of law.

12.00 News in Brief

12.10 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Kuwait's first music festival

By Mahmoud Mursi

KUWAITI music and song will get a boost when the first ever festival of music opens at the Shaab Sea Club on Wednesday.

Some of the best-known singers and upcoming talents have been grouped together to encourage musical culture in Kuwait, said Abdul Raouf Ismael, a well-known singer who is heading the organising committee. Ismael will also participate in the festival.

The three-day festival is aimed at encouraging Kuwait's upcoming singers and musicians to display their talent. Preparations for the festival began months in advance and the best performers were selected to participate in the festival. Of the 30 music groups which auditioned only 14 were selected to take part in the show.

The festival will be held in an open-air theatre that is now being built at the Shaab Sea Club. Some 1,500 people are expected to attend the shows.

Malaysian trade and cultural fair

A THREE-DAY Malaysian trade and cultural fair will begin Tuesday at a local hotel.

Called the Malaysian Fair, it will be held under the patronage of Kuwait's Minister of Commerce and Industry, Faisal Al Khalid, and has been organised by the Embassy of Malaysia.

More than 200 items highlighting the development of trade and industry in that country will be exhibited, including rubber and palm-oil products, canned and bottled foodstuffs, fresh fruit, electronic goods, computers and furniture.

Malaysian dance and music will be presented by a 16-member troupe, eight dancers and eight singers. Malaysian food, prepared by chefs flown in from Kuala Lumpur, will be served to guests.

The exhibition will be open from 9 am to 1 pm and 4 to 8 pm.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran

9.10 Good Morning

9.15 Dabdoob Al Musiqar: cartoons

10.00 Abu Fulos: daily serial

10.45 News followed by music

11.00 Al Zankalooni: daily serial

12.15 Gulf Cuisine

1.00 News

1.05 World Today via Satellite

1.30 Cartoons

2.00 Rasasah Fil Qabil: Arabic feature film, starring Mohammad Abdul Qahab, Raqiye Ibrahim and Siraj Munir

4.45 Ra'ad Al Amiaq: cartoon

5.05 Noor Al Islam: a special programme to mark the birthday of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)

5.45 La Ilaha Illallah: historical serial

6.45 Live from the Grand Mosque: Islamic talks to mark the birthday of the Prophet

7.55 Security and Citizens

8.30 Good Evening

9.00 News in Arabic

9.45 Songs and Music
 10.30 Daerat Al Ahdath: Circle of Events, Guests are Sheikh Ibrahim Duaij Al Sabah, Nazar Mulla Hussein, Fahad Al Shayji

11.45 News Summary

11.50 World Today via satellite/ Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran

6.10 My Little Pony: cartoons

6.30 Sam's Luck: the family prepare for a surprise birthday party for the youngest boy...

7.00 Survival: nature. A look at rats.

7.30 Life with Lucy: "Lucy Gets Her Wires Crossed."

8.00 News in English

8.40 Our House: "Families and ..." Grand-

father's visit turns sour due to an unfortunate mishap.

9.30 The Life of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH): a religious programme to mark the birthday of the Prophet

10.00 War in Korea: documentary. A look at the Korean war. Tonight, the Chinese counter-attack forces the Americans to retreat.

10.30 Made-for-TV Movie: "The Connection." Starring: Charles Durning, Zohra Lambert, Ronnie Cox. If you like tough, hard-boiled New York characters who have hearts of gold you'll enjoy the lead in this film.

11.30 News in Brief

11.40 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

CINEMA TODAY

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait

Ahla Pharmacy

Souk Muttaheda, Fahad Al Salem St.

Al Amal Pharmacy

Opp. Comm. Market, Mubarak Al Kabir St.

Hawalli and Nugra

Al Kamal Pharmacy

Tunis St.

Fahheel and Ahmad

Al Abrax Pharmacy

Salman Dabbous Bldg., Sinan St.

Khatian

Al Tawfiq Pharmacy

Raja'an Commercial Centre, South St.

Jahra

Al Noor Pharmacy

Abdul Aziz Nasrullah Bldg., Mataifi St.

Al Andalus

Laka Hada Al Hub (Arabic)

Starring: Noor Shariff, Laila Alwi

Al Salimiya

Wet God (from Sunday)

Starring: Brooke Shields

Al Hamra

Dayavan (Hindi)

Starring: Vinod Khanna, Ferz Khan, Madhuri Dixit

Drive-In

Ightial Madrasah (Arabic)

Starring: Nabila Obaid, Sabireen, Hisham Salim, Salah Qabil

Al Firdous

Dayavan (Hindi)

Starring: Vinod Khanna, Ferz Khan, Madhuri Dixit

Granada

Le Grand Carnaval (French)

Fajr

Zahr

4.35 am

Asr

2.45 pm

Maghreb

Isha

6.28

PRAYERS

SPORTS

Boy's Own Club

OCT 22-23: Boy's Own Club will hold a seven-a-side one-day football festival. Interested teams can contact Milagres 3967446 or Joe D'Souza 4813622

PBAK

OCT 23: 8 am. Picnic for all PBAK members and non-members at Messilah Beach. Games for men, women and children. Admission fee

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

MARRIAGE is an adventure, like going to war — G.K. Chesterton, English writer (1874-1936).

Austria hardens its stance on refugees

By Meriel Beattie

TRAISKIRCHEN, Austria (Reuters): Josef and Eva left Poland this summer with a small amount of money, a few bags of clothing and the belief that Austria would help them begin a new life in the West.

Instead they found they had to sleep rough in the streets outside the gates of Traiskirchen refugee camp near Vienna, having been denied the food and temporary shelter Austria formerly offered to all asylum-seekers.

The middle-aged couple — who declined to give their surname — are among about 500 men, women and children from Eastern Europe who church groups and human rights campaigners say have been barred from the camp as Austria toughens its treatment of refugees.

"Until this summer everyone was let into the camp," Traiskirchen Evangelist Minister Christian Hubka told Reuters. "Then suddenly when I walked my dog in the evenings, I had to pick my way over the bodies sleeping on the pavement."

Sleep

For the past two and a half months Hubka allowed a nightly average of 70 homeless men, women and children to sleep on the pews of the town's draughty, damp church. A similar number spent each night huddled inside their tiny East European cars outside the gates of the former military barracks.

Now Hubka has asked the refugees to return to the streets or to crowd into a spartan government waiting room recently opened outside the camp, in an effort to get the Austrian authorities to acknowledge the problem.

"The government has to clarify its position. If they have decided not to let everyone in anymore then they must admit it," she said.

Hubka and Amnesty International human rights workers in Vienna say the government has barred people from the camp in an attempt to deter other refugees from coming to Austria.

Austria's Interior Ministry, proud of the international respect it won for its generosity to thousands of refugees leaving Hungary in 1956 and Poland in the early 1980s, denies turning away needy cases.

Proceeding

The human rights workers have also criticised a new rapid system of processing asylum applications introduced in March. The authorities said this was vital to stem a recent flood of would-be refugees who cannot qualify for refugee status.

"Austria simply can't be a waiting room for rich immigration countries," ministry spokesman Karl Newole told Reuters. "It's a nice idea — but we just

Pinochet retains power despite his defeat

By Daniel Drosdoff

SANTIAGO, Chile (UPI): Despite his humiliating defeat in a plebiscite, aging Chilean strongman Gen. Augusto Pinochet retains vast powers that could make him a political force to the end of the century.

A military-sponsored constitution, approved in a disputed referendum in 1980, stipulates that if the 72-year-old Pinochet wants to remain as Army commander, the strongest branch of Chile's armed forces, he may do so for eight years after his presidential term expires on March 11, 1990.

He may not be removed unless there is a decision made to that effect by a National Security Council, four of whose seven members will be Pinochet appointees.

If he elects to retire from the Army, he will be eligible for a lifetime seat in the Senate, which will have a strong contingent of conservatives loyal to him.

Smart

"I don't think he's through," a Western diplomat said of Pinochet's future after 55 per cent of the electorate voted "no" in the Oct. 5 plebiscite. "He's too smart and clever not to be able to rebound."

The diplomat said one of the tenacious general's best political skills, which have kept him in office for 15 years, was "to keep everybody guessing."

The opposition, a loose coalition

of Christian Democrats, Socialists, and independents, is demanding that the authoritarian constitution — imposed by the military junta following a plebiscite in 1980 — be reformed and that Pinochet resign immediately.

The opposition wants to either eliminate or reduce the powers of the National Security Council and military commanders, and they want to eliminate a constitutional clause that could be used to banish left-wing parties, including the powerful communists, from legally organizing.

Pinochet so far has refused resignation and has been inflexible about reforming the constitution prior to presidential and congressional elections scheduled for December 1989.

Amendments

The new congress can adopt constitutional amendments, but to do so it needs to muster a three-fifths majority in both the chamber of deputies and the Senate.

The main obstacle will be the 35-member Senate, where not only Pinochet but at least four other retired officers will hold seats.

"This simply means that for constitutional reform to be accomplished, there will have to be a political agreement by those parties holding 60 per cent of the seats," Hermogenes Perez de Arce, a constitutional lawyer who is an adviser to the military junta, said in a telephone interview.

The opposition, a loose coalition

Departure of peace-keeping force will not solve Sri Lanka's problems

Presidential candidates want Indian troops out

By Dalton de Silva

COLOMBO, (Reuters): Sri Lanka's two rival presidential candidates have one thing in common — they both want the 50,000 Indian troops on the island to go home.

But diplomats and analysts say the departure of the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) will not resolve the island's ethnic conflict, which has killed nearly 10,000 people over the past five years.

Instead, it could make matters worse on the Indian Ocean island unless the winner of the December election can strike a deal with Tamil guerrillas in the north and east as well as with Marxist Sinhalese rebels in the south.

"If by the time I am elected president the Indian forces have not left, I shall ensure that they are withdrawn," said Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa, the

ruling United National Party's candidate.

"I will ask the Indian troops to go when I am elected president," said his arch rival, former Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike of the opposition Freedom Party.

Abrogation

"If either leader unilaterally abrogates the agreement ... the consequences will be both tragic and unpredictable," said Jayindra Nath Dixit, the Indian High Commissioner in Sri Lanka.

Indian troops started landing in northern Sri Lanka on July 30, 1987, hours after Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi signed controversial pact aimed at ending a revolt by the island's minority Tamil community.

At the time the accord was signed — amid violent protests by

the opposition — five major militant Tamil groups were fighting Sri Lankan troops to set up an independent state in the north and east, where most Tamils live.

The peace pact sought to disarm the guerrillas and withdraw Sri Lankan troops to barracks and set up semi-autonomous provincial councils giving Tamils powers to rule their areas.

Premadasa wants to renegotiate the pact with India.

Bandaranaike's Freedom Party and the Sinhalese Marxist People's Liberation Front are leading a campaign against the pact, describing it as a sell-out to India.

They are against the presence of Indian troops, the merger of the northern and eastern provinces and the devolution of semi-autonomous powers to the Tamils under the accord.

The pact has not worked as planned because of the intransigence of the dominant guerrilla group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

All the Tamil groups at first accepted the pact and an uneasy quiet descended on the strife-torn north and east. Barely five weeks later, the Tigers rejected it.

The IPKF, sent to supervise the implementation of the accord, launched a military operation in October last year against the Tigers.

The Indian soldiers, who had been hailed by the Tamils as "our protectors and saviors" when they landed, were fighting the guerrillas whom India had fostered.

The troops destroyed many heavily fortified guerrilla camps, captured several hundred rebels and seized a large quantity of arms and ammunition.

The Indian High Commissioner said 600 Indian soldiers had been killed and about 1,600

wounded in action in Sri Lanka up to early October this year.

The Tigers said 319 of their fighters had died in battles with Indian troops up to Oct. 5 this year.

"We have broken the back of the Tigers," Dixit said.

"Although the LTTE strength has been reduced, they still remain a very effective guerrilla force able to cause considerable civilian and Indian casualties," a Western diplomat said.

The Indian soldiers, who had been hailed by the Tamils as "our protectors and saviors" when they landed, were fighting the guerrillas whom India had fostered.

Ironically, many Tamils also now want the Indian troops to leave. They accuse the soldiers of killing civilians and torturing prisoners.

Amnesty International, the human rights organisation, has also accused Indian soldiers of torture, deaths and disappearance of people held in their custody in Sri Lanka.

Dixit said: "Wherever there have been specific reports

(against the IPKF) we have investigated each case and if the charges have been found to be true, action has been taken against them under the military laws."

"The IPKF has acted with discipline and restraint," he added.

A diplomat said: "Although some Tamils complain against the Indian troops, deep down in their hearts they fear about their safety if the IPKF leaves and Sri Lankan troops return."

He said that if the IPKF withdrew, whoever came to power would have to seek an agreement with the Tigers, which would also satisfy the Sinhalese. The Sinhalese form 74 per cent of the population.

"The fundamental dilemma facing any government here is that it is very difficult to find a solution to the north and east without exacerbating the problem in the south," he said.

WHICH IS MORE DANGEROUS?



Indian Airlines under attack

By Malcolm Davidson

NEW DELHI, (Reuters): Two air crashes that claimed 164 lives in the worst day in Indian domestic aviation history on Wednesday have put the country's internal airline system in the spotlight, aviation experts say.

Indian Airlines, which delayed flights and poor service.

"This type of rapid processing really means rapid rejection. In terms of time it just isn't possible to look at every case thoroughly," Barki told Reuters.

But according to Vienna-based lawyer Eva-Maria Barki, who handles legal cases for Amnesty, the system is too quick and insensitive to the fact that East Bloc refugees are unlikely to trust uniformed officials.

"Five of the 135 people abroad the aircraft survived the disaster but all 34 crew and passengers on a Vayudoot Fokker Friendship perished when it crashed in north-eastern Assam.

Indian Airlines, the main domestic carrier, flies more than 22,000 passengers between 71 destinations in India and neighbouring countries each day.

Attacked

But in all analysis of the state-owned airline this week, the authoritative India Today magazine attacked its "endless delays, sloppy service."

"As a result of this (crash) they are going to have to look very seriously at the industry," said a senior executive of an international airline operating out of India.

"Indian Airlines suffers from the normal affects of a monopoly. Their customer services tends to be sloppy," said the executive, who asked not to be named.

Utilization

Each aircraft is operated intensively and the airline has one of the highest utilization levels in the world, said spokesman A.K. Vasith. But if something goes wrong it affects tend to snowball throughout the network.

A series of mishaps in the past few months has created havoc with schedules and raised tempers among passengers forced to wait that can stretch many hours.

Vasith said that between July and September there were 45 bird strikes at Indian airports, the worst putting a jet out of action for several days.

The airline's reputation was not helped in June when the pilot of a Boeing 737 forgot to lower the landing gear on his aircraft before touching down at New Delhi airport.

Nobody was badly hurt, but it was the second such incident since the beginning of 1985.

The international airline executive said Indian Airlines had a good safety record despite its shortcomings.

"With the network that they have they do a pretty good job of keeping it all together, particularly with the facilities that they have," he said.

Frequent flyers often complain of cramped seating, long delays, unexplained diversions and poor food on Indian Airlines.

"They are terribly mismanaged particularly in management control of their maintenance, engineering and scheduling and performance control for their cockpit crew," said this executive, who also asked not to be named.

Another airline executive was not so complimentary, arguing the carrier was suffering a deep malaise.

"They are terribly mismanaged particularly in management control of their maintenance, engineering and scheduling and performance control for their cockpit crew," said this executive, who also asked not to be named.

Another airline executive was not so complimentary, arguing the carrier was suffering a deep malaise.

"The consumer has no choice," he said. "I think the main problem is because it is a monopolistic organisation and it is a government organisation. You do not get terminated unless you have responsibility for someone's death or for a major loss."

Vasith said the airline's capacity problem should begin to ease with the induction by the end of the year of four leased Boeing 737s. The first 19 Airbus A320s on order should be delivered next May.

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Tired Burmese lose urge for democracy

of the war against ethnic guerrillas.

The government said the crackdown, in which it conceded more than 1,000 people have been rounded up, is aimed at reducing crime in the capital. But diplomats believe the arrests are not swayed, "a diplomat said.

Ironically, thousands of students and others in the vanguard of this year's protests have joined the cities and taken sanctuary with the guerrilla groups, risking mines, malaria and lack of food.

Frightened

"(In Rangoon) people are too frightened and too preoccupied to worry about elections or political campaigning," a Rangoon resident passing through Bangkok said.

"Everybody now is trying to hide," one diplomat contacted by telephone said. "Soldiers just go from house to house and pick people up and take them away."

An ambassador said: "It's a combination of two things — slave labour up on the frontier where you're kept for a couple of months and you're likely to die of malaria or be blown up by a mine, and being sold back for pocket money for the troops."

"It is the old disease of Burma that they just can't cope with multi-party democracy," the diplomat said. "Everybody has an ambition to form a little party and become someone important."

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44-year-old rock star mesmerises Australian fans

Jagger appeals to young and old

SYDNEY. (Reuters) British rock superstar Mick Jagger is mesmerising Australian audiences with a series of solo concerts after a quarter of a century as the lead singer of the Rolling Stones.

Performing live for the first time in six years, the 44-year-old Jagger is proving he can still electrify a crowd.

Australia is the second country on Jagger's first solo tour. Backed by a six-piece band, he also visited Japan, and after Australia, will perform in Indonesia and New Zealand.

"The problem for me was doing a show after six years, not that there were different musicians on stage with me," Jagger said after a concert.

"I'm a singer for a living," he said. "That's what I do and I don't think about how difficult or easy it might be. I'm still

doing the same thing."

Jagger's five shows at the 12,000-seat Sydney Entertainment Centre were sold out.

Shrieked

The audience shrieked as he strayed across the stage, belting out 27 songs — many from his Rolling Stones days — in an energetic two-and-a-half-hour set. He also performed six songs from his two recent solo albums.

The climax of the show came when he vanished from the stage and reemerged from middle of the audience with the old Stones favourite 'Gimme Shelter.'

Many in the audience were not even born when Jagger began his career with the Rolling Stones in 1963. The superstar said he was thrilled to see so many young faces.

"Their parents or ... older

MUSIC LOVERS who bought compact discs in order to appreciate the delights of Debussy or a Mark Knopfler guitar solo have also found that their new toy can turn a tidy profit.

Limited editions, singles and special promotional compact discs have been changing hands for four times their original value, sometimes more. Not bad for a form of musical entertainment that only became generally available in this country in 1982.

Christie's South Kensington included two compact disc lots in their sale of pop memorabilia in August. Three limited edition Beatles albums — the White Album, Yellow Submarine and Sergeant Pepper — sold for £80, more than twice their original price when they went on sale in CD format just over a year earlier.

Surprised

A boxed set of the first four Beatles' albums, the first of the group's recordings to be offered on compact disc, went for £140 at the same auction.

This limited edition of 2,500 sets first went on sale in HMV record stores in February, 1987 for £47.99 p.

... older

"We were surprised at how quickly it sold and became a collector's item," said Malcolm McGlynn, assistant marketing manager for HMV, "but, having said that, with a band like the Beatles, collectors must have been picking over the same stuff for the last 15 or 20 years."

According to Mark Paytress, assistant editor of Record Collector, the first Beatles' boxed set has sold privately for anything up to £225. Most compact disc collectors conduct their business via small ads.

"Some of the compact disc singles have turned out to be the most valuable. Robert Palmer's 'I Didn't Mean To Turn You On,' which came out in the summer of 1986, originally sold for about £4 and is now worth about £40."

Another profitable area has been promotional discs put out by record companies for radio station use and containing live material not generally released. Most were issued in America.

... older



Short story masters: (left to right) Seumas O'Kelly, Guy de Maupassant, George Moore, Anton Chekhov, James Joyce.

ON the surface at least the short story would appear to be particularly well suited to our times. It may be read at a sitting, as a film or a television programme is seen.

It may be approached without fear of tiresomely time-consuming consequences — such as having repeatedly to plunge oneself into its world in order to reach a conclusion.

As in fashionable newspaper and magazine photography, it seeks to catch a revelatory moment. In short, it would seem to be an art-form for people in a hurry, which more or less everyone is in modern life.

Argument

This argument, often propounded, looks good on paper, but that's about it. If it contained any real truth the short-story writer would be doing rather better business than the novelist, and generally speaking this is not so.

From time to time, especially in England, it is suggested that the novel is dead. And from time to time there is vague talk about the "renaissance of the short story".

It is possible that the cosetting of the novel by literary prizes and best-seller lists may indeed be symptomatic of ill-health. But it is hardly likely that a rebirth of the shorter form is presently taking place, since rebirth suggests a demise that has not occurred.

The short story — never as popular in England as elsewhere — simply continues. It has been particular at home in Russia, America, Italy and Ireland — flourishing perhaps most notably during, or after, periods of suppression or unrest.

It is the art of the glimpse, more reminiscent of Impressionist and post-Impressionist

Telling tales in miniature

Author William Trevor discusses the art of the short story and some of its best practitioners

painting than of a masterpiece by, say, Bruegel or Ghirlandaio. Elizabeth Bowen called it a child of this century, and I believe she was right. Chekhov, and after him Joyce, then the Americans, were responsible for a literary revolution.

The Weaver's Grave by Seumas O'Kelly is one of the great short stories of this century. It tells of the search for the recently deceased Mortimer Hehir's allocated burial plot in a country graveyard called Cloon na Morav, the Meadow of the Dead: "The ground was billowy, grotesque. Several partially suppressed insurrections — a great thirsting, warming, pushing and shouldering under the sod — had given it character."

A long tough growth of grass wired it from end to end." While the old weaver stiffnesses in his coffin the villagers argue and chatter; everyone knows where the place should be, but no-one can find it. The rights of the dead are precious, but the human story that develops within the theme has all to do with life.

First published in 1919, The Weaver's Grave belongs to its own past while anticipating what is to come: it is a unique example of the antique in the process of drifting into modernism. Deservedly, a radio adaptation of the story was awarded the Prix Italia in 1961.

Frank O'Connor once remarked that short stories often spring from an awareness of man's loneliness, and certainly it seems more natural to write briefly rather than at length about the failure of communication that breeds this kind of solitude. O'Connor might have added that short

been bettered. These stories are personal favourites, So is Chekhov's The Lady with the Toy Dog. It is probably not his best; nor is Joyce's Two Gallants in quite the same class as The Dead. Yet I still find as fresh as ever that image of a tall fair-haired young woman in a broad-rimmed hat, strolling along a quay, her white Pomeranian trotting with big hips sticking out, and a long thin throat.

And he is the most dependable servant in the place: "no running around to public houses and coming back with the smell of whisky upon him: no rank pipe in his pocket; and most of all, no playing the fool with the maid-servants."

In fact, Albert Nobbs isn't

Albert Nobbs at all. He is a woman who has decided to spend her life pretending to be a man — and what a confused riddle, that would have been, written 60 or so years later, murky with concern about sexual liberation! As it is, this long short story is perfect: an extraordinary excursion into the imagination, page by page superbly well told.

Maupassant's Boule de Suif has haunted me, on and off, since I stumbled through it in French nearly 50 years ago.

The events it relates are too

well known to require any reminder from me here, and in any case it is not the events that matter but the sure, harsh touch that knits together so many strands of human nature.

Its truth is simple, like the decent fat woman of its title who happens, as well, to be a prostitute. As an exercise in cynicism, I cannot think it has

been bettered.

These stories are personal



Katherine Mansfield and emphasise, the serving of a bony structure. But, as always, people matter most. The throng of villagers in The Weaver's Grave, Albert Nobbs and Boule de Suif, the young woman of the quays, Lenehan and Corley, Mrs Harry Kemper of At the Bay: they are not all pleasant human beings, but they call you back, again and again.

There are stories I like as well as any of those I've referred to — by Frank O'Connor and Sean O'Faolain, John Updike, Ernest Hemingway, Scott Fitzgerald, Thomas Hardy, Somerset Maugham, Elizabeth Bowen, Flannery O'Connor, V.S. Pritchett and many others. None of the writers I have mentioned, except Chekhov and Hardy, wrote better in another medium: that too, is an attraction, and there is pleasure in discovering for oneself the born short-story writer.

The novelist makes short stories out of the remnants left behind by his novels. The short-story writer occasionally turns into a novel what will not be glimpsed. His art has been called modest, he himself likened to a miniaturist. This is wholly to misunderstand his intent — to catch in an instant a complicated explosion of truth, to tell as little as he dares. On this dangerous ground you do not travel modestly.

Long-overdue recognition of Arabic literature

By Fatma Moussa Mahmoud

THOUGH most English readers had not heard of Naguib Mahfouz before the announcement of this year's winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature, no reader in the Arab world is at all surprised at the choice.

Mahfouz has been writing regularly and prolifically for almost half a century. His novels and short stories have long been part both of the mass culture imbued by the average literate Arab (and even more widely popularised, on celluloid) and the subject of debate and dissertations by intellectuals and academics.

It is typical of this very private and modest man that his first comment on hearing of the award was: "It is great honour. I was not even aware that I had been nominated."

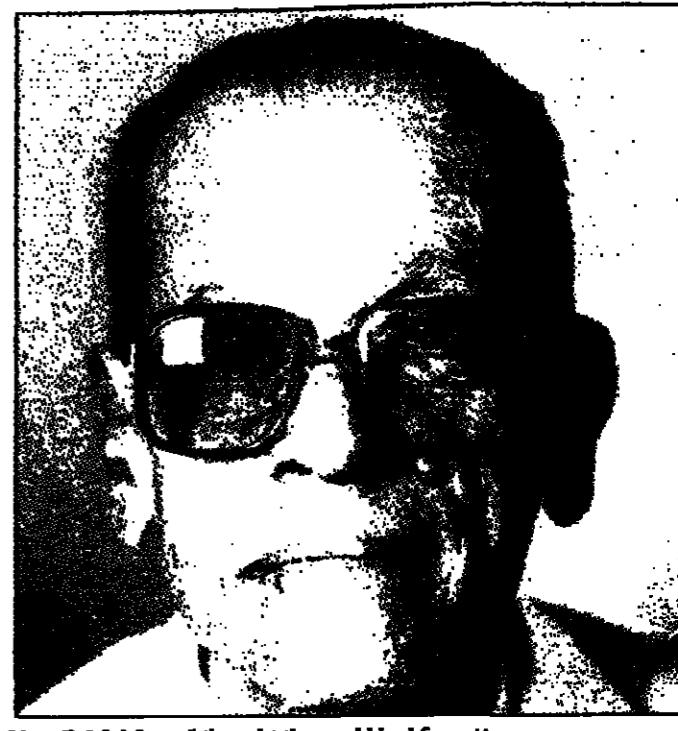
His next immediate thought was for his predecessors:

famous Arab writers, he said, who had taught him a great deal: Tahar Hussen, Abbas El Aqqad and Tawfiq Al Hakim. They are all dead now — mercifully perhaps — for every member of our essentially "respectable" culture would have sympathised with Mahfouz' embarrassment had he got the prize while one of his mentors was neglected.

That having been said, however, it is doubtful whether any other Arab writer has achieved Mahfouz' scope and popular appeal.

The overwhelming feeling in the Arab world (apart from the few expected sour notes) is that the award is well-earned, if overdue. Mahfouz himself commented: "I thought the world had forgotten us, and in the Arab media there is a note of relief that this 'breakthrough' may finally give the reading public in the West the chance to see for themselves that modern Arabic literature contains much that is of universal relevance and value."

We are all burdened by a sense of others' prejudices: the stock image of the backward Arab with his camels on the one



Naguib Mahfouz: I thought the world had forgotten us

hand, and the pompous moral tone of official Arabic so mercilessly and hilariously translated in the West on the other.

Some of Mahfouz' best novels have been available in English translations for over a decade now. But the author's shrewd conjecture that it must have been the publication in France last year of his "Trilogy" (his major work published in the Fifties) which finally attracted the attention of the Swedish judges to his work, rings painfully true.

Mahfouz is a child of Tolstoy, Balzac, Goldsworthy, Camus and Lawrence as well as of his own indigenous tradition.

His first novels, published between 1939 and 1944, had the work of Sir Walter Scott and Alexander Dumas as models; they were historical fictions set in the Egypt of Pharaohs but imbued with the modern nationalist quest for independence.

Then followed the group of eight works, written between 1945 and 1957, in which he turned his eyes and pen to the contemporary scene.

It is for these novels of social criticism, the last three of which comprise the "Trilogy", that he is most widely known.

His later novels are more experimental and more exciting to the critic. In my view they are more daring — the vision more condensed. And the social criticism in them is more savage but it is less direct.

Mahfouz has often been compared to Dickens — probable by people who have never read Dickens. A more fitting comparison is with Graham Greene; like Greene, Mahfouz is a serious novelist who has been working at his craft all his life, who is so disciplined that even in old age he still publishes a novel every year, and who has a deep human sympathy for ordinary men — sinners all, but with buried heroic potential.

There, however, the similarity ends. For Mahfouz has hardly ever travelled out of Egypt — indeed, has never (until his retirement) absented himself from his job as a civil servant in the Egyptian government — but has lived all his life as a Cairene, a liberal Muslim and a novelist.

Salman Rushdie: Booker Prize nominee

One major British bookseller said the public was complaining that this year's shortlist was boring because all of the writers were established. "It's solid but lacks excitement," he said. Despite the criticism, publishers say the demand for the books is greater than ever.

Faber and Faber, the publishers of Carey's "Oscar and Lucinda," ran out of the shortlist within 48 hours of the shortlist being published.

"More than 5,000 copies left the warehouse in that time. We usually don't run out for at least a week," Faber spokesman Mike McLennan said.

British bookmakers William Hill said punters want to begin betting as soon as the list is out.

"I have to react instantly and make up my odds even before I've read the books," said spokesman Graham Sharpe.

"In reading them all bit by bit and starting to get a vague idea, I'm about a third of the way through all of them," said Sharpe, adding that he might change his odds after finishing the books but that reviews and the number of bets taken on each author were the main criteria for judging favourites.

Sympathetic insight on the creator of Frankenstein

By Jonathan Coe

AFTER her novels, it is easy to forget that Muriel Spark began her career as a critic of early nineteenth-century literature.

This book (previously entitled *Child Of Light*) was the first she ever published, back in 1951.

The recent appearance of an American pirated edition is one of her reasons for revising and reissuing it: a better reason is that it's extremely good.

The authors of *Frankenstein* and *The Prime Of Miss Jean Brodie* (not novels which you would normally think of mentioning in the same breath) have several things in common, in particular an instinctive feminism tempered by conservatism, and a strong sense of the spiritual as located in the everyday (although Spark had not yet converted to Catholicism).

So the critical sections of this study, if not dazzling, are full of sympathetic insight: Spark rolls up her sleeves and gets on with the business of pointing out the virtues and defects of each of the major novels.

Nevertheless, I wish that

"substantial revisions" carried out "with all my best care" had been more substantial and more careful.

A paragraph has been hoped here and a new sentence added there; the flowery chapter headings from the original edition have gone. But although brief mention is made of the boom in Frankenstein criticism over the last 30 years, none of it is specifically discussed. Herbert Read is still referred to as a "recent critic" on the basis of an essay he wrote in 1946.

No interest is shown in the fact that, since this book was first published, feminist science fiction has flourished as a genre in ways which must owe something to Mary Shelley's

Also, Spark's lively original introduction has been dropped, which is a shame and a mystery, since it remains relevant. Among other things it put forward the convincing argument that Mary Shelley had been neglected by chauvinist critics because she could not, unlike other female literary figures, be easily pigeonholed.

To prove her point, Spark presented this list of lazy



Frankenstein as she appears in films.

made so much of Mary Shelley's years of widowhood, the most heroic and the least well-documented of her life.

In the description of her final days, the characterisations of her son and daughter-in-law feel vivid and fleshed-out in a way which belies their historical sketchiness, and which is identifiably the product of a novelist's imagination. I found myself thinking, in fact, what a good novel she could write on this subject.

Mary Shelley, by Muriel Spark (Constable, £14.95).

Booker Prize treads fine line between integrity and hype

By Deborah Telford

LONDON, Reuter: Britain's top literary award, the Booker Prize, enters its 20th year this month — treading a fine line between artistic integrity and the commercial hype which can push book sales to record levels.

Before television cameras, literary lights, publishers and top business people at London's lavish Guildhall on Oct 25, one of six shortlisted authors will receive the £15,000 (\$25,000) honour as well as a silent but certain guarantee of soaring sales.

"I think it's normally described as 'a glittering literary evening,'" commented one of the organisers dryly after running through a menu that includes smoked salmon, asparagus, hare, venison and an equally diverse guest list.

"There's just a hair's breadth between it being a serious prize and one big hype. It's a matter of constant watch and care to make sure it doesn't cross that line," said Martyn Goff, who administers the prizes.

This year's list of finalists, bemoaned by literary critics as containing no surprises, includes only two authors who have not reached the final straight before.

They are travel writer Bruce Chatwin for his book *Utz* and Marina Warner for *The Lost Father*.

Two former winners, Indian-born Salman Rushdie who won in 1981 with *Midnight's Children*, and Penelope Fitzgerald, the 1979 winner with *Offshore*, are shortlisted with *The Satanic*

extra sales of hardback copies, and the finalists 10,000."

Winners can usually also depend on big contracts for the US book market as well as foreign language editions.

But Goff insists that despite growing publicity the prize retains its integrity — with the exception of one very big on-camera gaffe in 1984.

"That was the catastrophic year when a television commentator asked the judges' chairman, Fay Weldon, if she had read any of the books. She thought Weldon was a member of the public. It was a total farce," she Goff.

Since then, the prize's administration have taken much greater pains to see that television coverage maintains a slightly more scholarly tone.

Even so, some leading authors like Graham Greene have dismissed the Booker as an irrelevance from the start, refusing to enter it since it began in 1969 as a British alternative to France's Prix Goncourt.

Sales

Books are entered by the author's publishers who may submit up to three novels which are scheduled to be published in the year running up to the awards.

Any full length novel, written in English by a citizen of the Commonwealth, the Republic of Ireland, Pakistan and South Africa is eligible.

Goff says sales of shortlisted books keep rising each year.

"In England alone, the winner can count on 30,000 to 70,000

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Emergency meeting not ruled out

Key ministers fail to reach accord on output quotas

MADRID, Oct 21, (UPI): OPEC secretary-general Subroto of Indonesia indicated today that key organisation officials have so far failed to agree on production quotas aimed at halting a plunge in prices and that more meetings will be called in coming weeks.

Subroto, in a brief press conference, said he did not rule out an emergency meeting of all 13 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries before its scheduled conference on Nov 21.

He said OPEC's price and long-term strategy committees could continue their talks through Saturday but that "several more" meetings of the two were planned in coming weeks because of "the complexity of the situation."

Hopes

OPEC officials expressed hopes that the Madrid sessions, which started late Thursday, would produce a consensus on new oil output quotas.

Serious violations by OPEC members of their ceilings in recent months has caused a glut and sent prices dropping to two-year lows.

Subroto said the first session on Thursday reviewed market forecasts for 1989, which showed an increase in demand for OPEC oil.

He gave no date or venue for upcoming meetings of the two committees, whose eight member countries include OPEC's major producers, but said they might lead to an emergency meeting.

"If we can arrive at an agreement quick enough, that will give us a better chance to influence the market in the fourth quarter, before November 21," he said.

The eight oil ministers who form the two committees were to meet later today and again Saturday for a final session, Subroto said.

Oteiba optimistic about oil talks

RABAT, Oct 21, (Reuters): United Arab Emirates (UAE) Oil Minister Mana Said Al Oteiba said today he was optimistic about the outcome of the current OPEC talks in Madrid, held by oil analysts as a make-or-break session to reanimate the organisation.

But he indicated that an extraordinary meeting of ministers of the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries might also be needed.

"I am optimistic the Madrid meeting will come up with concrete suggestions with regard to output ceiling and quotas," Oteiba told Reuters.

The Madrid talks, which opened on Thursday night, are being attended by ministers from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Nigeria, Indonesia, Venezuela, Algeria, Iran and Iraq, representing the organisation's price and long-term strategy committees.

OPEC ministers have said production is running at more than 21 million barrels per day, well above its self-imposed limit of 15.06 million set in a bid to reduce a glut on markets and bolster prices. Current estimates of demand for OPEC oil range between 18.5 to 19 million barrels a day.

Iraq has refused to accept a quota unless it matched that of its Gulf war for Iran, which opposes the idea, and OPEC ministers in Madrid were expected to try and get Iraq back into the quota system.

Oteiba is in Rabat for a one-day annual ministerial conference of the Arab organisation for mineral resources.

Agreement

Oteiba said an agreement in Madrid would result in an "immediate" improvement in prices, but added: "We may have to call an extraordinary meeting. We cannot wait until November for an agreement to be reached."

The widely traded North Sea Brent blend crude oil was quoted in Europe this morning at \$13.65 a barrel for December delivery. Oteiba said one or two more days of talks were needed.

start of the talks.

Oil industry experts said the lack of agreement on quotas could send prices plummeting in months to come and prompt a price war.

Although neither committee has the power to set policy for the producer's organisation, they can make recommendations to the full organisation.

Demand

Analysts said the key issues of Iraq's return to the OPEC fold and the United Arab Emirates' demand for a higher production quota might force Subroto to consider an emergency meeting of all 13 members.

Iraq was present at the Madrid



Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi is all smiles as he attends OPEC's first session of talks in Madrid aimed at supporting world oil prices. (Reuter wirephoto)

talks but the UAE is not a member of either of the two committees at the meeting.

The UAE has demanded a production increase from 938,000 barrels a day to 1.5 million, but OPEC is trying to limit production to stabilise prices.

Al Chalabi's late arrival prompted speculation Iraq might not rejoin the quota system because of Iran's refusal to allow it equal production rights.

Sources close to the Iranian delegation said Iran has formally reiterated its rejection of quota parity.

"We might consider negotiating an increase in Iraq's production of some 100,000 barrels a

day but never one equal to ours," the Spanish news agency EFE quoted an Iranian delegate as saying.

Quotas

Oil analysts said other OPEC members were unlikely to abide by new quotas unless Iraq returned to the fold.

Iraq's departure from the quota system in mid-1986 started a chain of production cheating by other members, resulting in a worldwide glut in crude oil that has sent prices diving to a two-year low.

Some analysts predict the collapse of the 28-year-old organisation unless it masters some discipline.

Iraq left the system because it

was refused the same quota as Iran's 2.4 million barrel daily limit. Iraq is believed to be pumping 2.7 million barrels daily.

Production

OPEC's daily production is estimated at 21 million barrels, nearly 6 million more than the 15.06 million ceiling set by OPEC in December 1987.

Largely because of excess production, market prices of crude oil have dropped recently to two-year lows of \$10 to 11 per barrel, compared with the organisation's reference price of \$18.

Countries on the committee are Algeria, Indonesia, Nigeria, Venezuela and the Gulf nations of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iran and Iraq.

Stock market crash left no scars, says Reagan

WASHINGTON, Oct 21, (Reuters): The stock market and the economy have suffered no permanent damage from last October's stock market crash, President Reagan said on Thursday.

"We saw the big fall of a year ago and a year later there has been no disaster and everything is proceeding as normal," Reagan said as he appeared in the White House Rose Garden for a photo opportunity with South Korean President Roh Tae Woo.

White House spokesman Marin Fitzwater earlier told reporters Reagan believed market reforms being undertaken by the government and the securities industry were adequately addressing the questions raised by the crash.

Prices

On October 19, 1987, share prices fell by a record 22.6 per cent.

"The market system and the government responded well at the time and (the market) seems to have recovered in a healthy fashion," Fitzwater said.

Wall Street had one of its periodic attacks of jitters on Wednesday when stock prices skidded on false rumours that the Washington Post was about to print a negative story about Vice-President George Bush's personal life.

The market recovered some ground on Thursday and the Dow Jones industrial average, edging back toward Tuesday's post-crash high of 2,159.85, rose 5.87 points to 2,143.14.

Arab airlines criticise UK tourism group

AMMAN, Oct 21, (Reuters): Arab airlines criticised the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA) today for plans to hold its annual conference next month in the occupied city of Jerusalem.

The Amman-based Arab Air Carriers Organisation sent a telexed message to the British Tourist Authority appealing for it to act to prevent the ABTA meeting from going ahead.

"We strongly deplore your decision to convene (the meeting) in Jerusalem, the historical and spiritual capital of the Arab world," the message said.

It said ABTA's action was untenable in view of what it called the "suppression of the human rights of the Palestinian people in their own homeland."

Venezuela seeks aid from commercial bank creditors

Weak oil prices compounding Third World economic problems

MEXICO CITY, Oct 21, (Reuters): Falling oil prices should help growth in industrial nations, but in the Third World they just compound existing problems of debt, recession and poverty.

Many heavily indebted developing nations are watching a joint meeting this week in Madrid of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries' (OPEC) pricing and long-term strategy committees on how to shore up the oversupplied international crude oil market.

Plan

Though there are plans to restore production discipline, Mexico must act with great caution because the situation is highly volatile," Mexican state oil company Petroleos Mexicanos (Pemex) said recently of continuing differences between Iran and Iraq over their OPEC output quotas.

OPEC Secretary-General Subroto has announced a plan to

reduce the organisation's output and make quotas effective, but political conflict in the Gulf in the wake of the Iran-Iraq war ceasefire last August is undermining its viability.

Mexico, along with Venezuela, Nigeria, Indonesia, Egypt and Colombia among the highly indebted nations, stands to lose heavily if OPEC fails to discipline production.

Higher growth in industrial countries, resulting from cheaper oil, should help Third World nations but in recent years the benefits have been curbed by rising protectionism.

With this in mind, the US Treasury on Monday announced a \$3.5 billion bridging loan to help Mexico through present oil price weakness which threatens to prolong a recession there. Oil income is expected to drop 25 per cent there this year.

OPEC member Venezuela is meanwhile seeking help from its commercial bank creditors to overcome a \$1.5 billion financing gap in 1988. Its Finance Minister, Hector Hurtado, said this month the government hopes to

reschedule its \$30 billion debt soon because of the oil price drop.

Neighboring Trinidad, a small Caribbean oil exporter, has also been forced to negotiate an International Monetary Fund (IMF) loan because of oil price weakness that has almost wiped out its reserves.

The oil slump could hamper efforts by Colombia, up to now the only major Latin American country to avoid debt problems, to line up a \$1.85 billion loan. Officials say the country's recent emergence as an oil exporter enhances its credit rating.

But if the loan fails to materialise, Colombia, hit by a hurricane earlier this week, may have to reschedule its \$14 billion debt.

Ecuador, still recovering from the impact of an earthquake last year, is seeking a high OPEC production quota to help stem balance of payments weakness.

Even Brazil, which in the past has benefited from lower oil

prices, would be affected if they stay low. In Rio de Janeiro, a Petrobras director said Brazil now produces half its domestic consumption and the operation begins to become uneconomic as prices approach its \$5 per barrel production cost.

Price

The oil price fall could help some producers by persuading creditors that emergency action is needed. Mexico won swift help from Washington and Western diplomats say it could give Egypt new ammunition in current negotiations with the IMF.

Egypt is negotiating a standby IMF credit of \$4 billion which will pave the way for a \$4 billion Paris Club rescheduling. Its total foreign debt is \$43 billion.

Indonesia, with 160 million people, has avoided debt rescheduling so far but a drop in oil income will severely affect its ability to service a \$50 billion foreign debt.

KFTCIC to boost capital

KUWAIT, Oct 21, (Reuters): Kuwait Foreign Trading, Contracting and Investment Co. (KFTCIC), one of Kuwait's biggest investment firms, said it would soon nearly triple its capital and shift assets from the Third World to the West and Far East.

Executive vice-president for banking Yousef Al Hassawi told Reuters on Thursday the company expected to receive a 42 million dinar (\$150 million) injection from Kuwaiti government by mid-November to cover 1987 provisions on bad Third World debt.

KFTCIC was badly hit last year by non-performing loans mostly from Latin American and other Third World countries. It reported a net loss of 60.2 million dinars (\$214 million) after loan loss provisions of 59.8 million

dinars (\$213 million).

Hassawi said the Kuwait Investment Authority (KIA), which holds 96 per cent of KFTCIC, would boost shareholders' equity to 54 million dinars (\$192 million) from 12.4 million dinars (\$44 million) at the end of last year.

KIA the government's investment arm, has assets valued at more than \$80 billion mostly in foreign stocks, bonds and real estate.

"We are expecting an Amiri decree (on the capital increase) next week or the week after. Our capital should be raised by mid-November," Hassawi said.

Investments

He said the company's direct investments in the Third World would be swapped for other assets with another KIA subsidiary, Kuwait Real Estate

Soviet Union to develop price index for first time

MOSCOW, Oct 21, (Reuters): The Soviet Union, which has long maintained that it has no inflation, plans to develop an index to measure rising prices, a senior government statistician said on Thursday.

Nikolai Belov complained of what he called groundless price increases in both industrial and consumer goods and said they had affected the income of the Soviet people in the first nine months of 1988.

"We want to be ready for 1992," Hassawi said, in reference to the planned introduction of a European Common Market. He predicted KFTCIC would show a profit in 1988 and would not need to take major additional new provisions.

Prices

"A number of enterprises have started to resolve their financial problems through groundless price rises," Belov, the first deputy chairman of the State Committee on Statistics, told a news conference.

He could not estimate the percentage by which prices had risen, saying the Soviet Union did not use an "inflation indicator" in its statistics. But he added: "We plan to develop a price index based on economic performance for the entire year."

Belov's comments were the first official indication that the Soviet Union, like the West, suffers from inflation even though media complaints of price rises have been emerging.

The trade union newspaper Trud said on Sept 29 that the prices of such staple foods as bread, potatoes and other vegetables had risen by up to 18 per cent in the last two years.

Analysts said the earnings gain appeared to be driven mostly by sales of mainframe computers and related products as well as personal computers.

They said it appeared IBM midrange systems were still struggling. However, many analysts expect midrange sales to pick up as IBM increases shipments of the new AS/400 mini-computers.

Maria said the company had seen "some signs of improvement" in US demand during the quarter. Computer analysts said IBM's overall US sales had been flat to slightly down in the first half of the year.

Analysts said the earnings gain appeared to be driven mostly by sales of mainframe computers and related products as well as personal computers.

They said it appeared IBM midrange systems were still

struggling. However, many analysts expect midrange sales to

pick up as IBM increases shipments of the new AS/400 mini-

computers.

IBM spokeswoman Marti



Distributors look over new products during the annual convention of the electronics group at Yusuf A. Alghanim & Sons Tuesday at the Hilton Hotel. The distributors were able to examine the Korean Daewoo products. Participants were welcomed by the company's Vice-President Victor Kashkoush and Wahid Labib, general manager of the electronics group.

World Business Summary

EEC concludes trade accord with Czechoslovakia

BRUSSELS, Belgium, Oct 21, (AP): The European Economic Community said on Thursday it concluded a trade agreement with Czechoslovakia, its second trade pact with an Eastern European nation. The accord, which still has to be officially signed, is aimed at promoting trade in industrial products between the 12-nation trade bloc and Czechoslovakia. The EEC's trade balance with Czechoslovakia swung into a surplus of 22.6 million European Currency Units (\$26 million) in 1987 from a deficit of 164.2 million ECU's (\$188.6 million) the previous year. The commission said in a statement that under the terms of the four-year deal, the EEC would make "substantial progress" in eliminating national import quotas currently imposed on Czech products. Some of the curbs would be ended or suspended as soon as the agreement comes into force, it said. The statement said Czechoslovakia planned to take the "necessary measures" to promote EEC imports. The Czech authorities also will try to create "favourable" working conditions for EEC exporters. The agreement follows an accord with Hungary which was signed in September and comes amid an improvement in relations between the EEC and Eastern Europe. In June, the EEC and Comecon, the Soviet-dominated trade bloc, signed a pact where the two blocs recognised each other. This was followed by the establishment of diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary and Bulgaria. The commission is also discussing trade agreements with Bulgaria, Poland and East Germany. Exploratory talks with the Soviet Union on the possibility of trade pact will be held in early November.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1988

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International Bond Issues

Paris — Finnish Export Credit Ltd is launching a 100 mn ECU bond due 1994, carrying a coupon of 7.5/8 pct and priced at 101 1/4 pct, lead manager Societe Generale said. (RTTY 1126)

Paris — Food group BSN said it will make an equity-related bond issue worth a total of 1.34 billion francs. Sources at lead manager Banque Lazard said the amount may be boosted if existing shareholders react enthusiastically. (RTZA 1143, RTVA 1518)

London — Istituto Bancario San Paolo di Torino, Amsterdam branch, is issuing a 100 mn ECU three year Eurobond, paying 7.5/8 pct at 101 3/8 pct via Law Debenture Trust Corporation, lead manager Deutsche Bank Capital Markets said. (RTXA 1314)

Amsterdam — Mortgage bank Westland Utrecht Hypotheekbank is issuing a 100 mn guilder 5.75 pct Eurobond due 1992 at 101.125, lead manager Algemene Bank Nederland NV said. (RTZO 1205)

London — Pirelli Financial Services NV is issuing an 80 billion lire Eurobond due Nov 21, 1992 paying 12 pct and priced at 101.65 pct, joint lead manager and Bookrunner Bankers Trust International said. (RTXD 0844)

Zurich — The city of Yokohama is issuing a 100 mn Swiss franc, 10-year, 4 1/2 pct bond priced at par, lead manager Swiss Bank Corp said. (RTTW 1312)

Interbank Rates

	CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN	12-1/8 11-7/8	12-1/16 11-15	12-1/16 12
FFT	4.80/90	4.85/95	5.05/15
PAR	7-3/4 7/8	7-13/16 15/16	8-1/8
ZUR	1-5/8 1-7/8	3-3/8 3-5/8	3-5/8 3-7/8
BRA	5.35	7-3/16 16/16	7-1/4 5/16
BON	10-3/8 10-7/8	11 11-1/2	11-3/8 11-7/8
AMS	5.18/31	5.25/38	5.25/38
TOK	3.8125 8750	4.1875 2500	4.3125 3750
ECU	7.31 7.56	7.37 7.50	7.50 7.62

Interest Rates

Following are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait today:

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	5-1/16	6
3 months	6-3/16	6-3/8
6 months	6-1/4	6-5/8
1 year	6-5/16	6-3/4

Summary

PR.CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	--	93	84	HICO	665	660	680		
ACC	283.50	296	308	GRASIM	57.50	59	58.50	MUKUND	114	113	117	
ASTA PAINT	220.50	230	227.50	GSPC	--	141.25	143.75	OKRAY	36.25	37	39.50	
BAJAJ AUTO	--	402.50	400	HIND LEVER	87	91	88	PEICO	37	36	37	
BAL.DYING	--	141	142	HINDCOCON	116.25	117.50	120	P.F.AUT.	47	48.50	48.50	
BR.B. DYEING	--	119	118	HINDMOTOR	33.50	33	33	RAYMOND	62	62	63	
BSE INDEX	656.12	678.67	678.67	IND ORG	43	44.50	45	RELIANCE	176	184	186.50	
CENTURYSPIG	1320	1355	1375	INDRAYON	80	80	81	STIEMENS	109	108	110	
COLGATE	304.50	315	325	INDROL	--	287.50	288	SPIC	52.50	52.50	54	
DEEPAKFERT	46.50	46	45.50	ITC	54	56	58	SHETHILIS	340	340	350	
E.I. HOTEL	55	55	55	JKSYTHE	88.75	87	87.50	TATA PUR	335	340	355	
ESKAIEF	145	147.50	155	L AND T	132	134.50	136.50	TATACHEM	102	104	105	
ESSAR POLY	--	23	24.50	23.75	MAHINDRA	102	104	107	TELCO	700	710	740
GE.SHIP	--	112.50	105	MASTERSHR	18.50	18.25	18.50	TISCO	947.50	952.50	987.50	
PR CLOSE	41.50	40.50	40.50	MATHER PL	--	86.25	85	VOLTA	420	410	415	

Spanish Bonds

STOCK	LAST PR-CLE	STOCK	LAST PR-CLE	NITSUB CP	1150	1160	NITSUB EL	956	951	NITSUB EST	2510	2470
AEG	175.0	177.0	AIJINOMOTO	2660	2610	2610	MITSUB CP	1150	1160	MITSUB EST	2510	2470
ALLIANZ VR	1703.0	1702.0	AKAI ELEC	555	550	550	MITSUB HVY	971	951	MITSUB HVY	971	951
BADENWERK	0	181.0	AKOI	967	969	969	MITSUB CO	910	897	MITSUB CO	910	897
BAFSE	280.7	281.4	ASAHI GLS	1830	1820	1820	MITSUKOSHI	1900	1900	MITSUKOSHI	1900	1900
BAFFER MYP	306.5	308.5	ASAHI OPT	599	587	587	MITSUMI EL	959	955	MITSUMI EL	959	955
BAFFER VER	370.0	378.0	BANK TOKYO	1540	1540	1540	MICHICON	1100	1110	MICHICON	1100	1110
BBC	320.5	317.0	BRIDGESTON	1210	1210	1210	MIKRO CHNT	938	895	MIKRO CHNT	938	895
BHF	416.0	414.0	CAJON	1270	1290	1290	MIKKO SEC	1720	1740	MIKKO SEC	1720	1740
BWJ	531.5	535.0	CASIO COMP	1240	1270	1270	MIP ELEC	1780	1780	MIP ELEC	1780	1780
CONNERZBK	249.7	251.0	CITIZEN H	1430	1430	1430	MIP KOKCAN	796	794	MIP KOKCAN	796	794
CONTI GUNN	266.0	265.0	D-ICHT KAN	3090	3090	3090	MIP OIL	1190	1200	MIP OIL	1190	1200
DAIMER BEN	738.2	743.0	DAI NIP IK	820	819	819	MIP STEEL	795	789	MIP STEEL	795	789
DEUTSC BNK	534.5	536.5	DAI NIP PT	2600	2640	2640	MIP TUSEN	805	771	MIP TUSEN	805	771
DLW	389.0	388.0	DAI NIP SC	880	890	890	MIS MOTOR	1200	1220	MIS MOTOR	1200	1220
DRESDNER B	298.5	304.0	DAI NIP TO	767	725	725	MOKURA SEC	3550	3600	MOKURA SEC	3550	3600
DT BABCOCK	169.8	168.0	DANDEL	752	762	762	MOLYNS	1030	1030	MOLYNS	1030	1030
FAZ INDEX	534.31	530.59	DAIMA H	1890	1950	1950	MONTA OCH	976	964	MONTA OCH	976	964
FELDMANN	282.40	282.20	DATRA SEC	2500	2550	2550	PIONEER	3040	3170	PIONEER	3040	3170
GOLDSCHMI	321.0	324.0	EBRA NFG	899	909	909	PRENOM	859	866	PRENOM	859	866
HARPERN	400.0	407.0	ETSAI	1850	1870	1870	RICOH	1080	1110	RICOH	1080	1110
HOECHST AG	305.0	307.1	FUTSUS	1480	1520	1520	SANYKO	1960	1960	SANYKO	1960	1960
HOESCH	167.3	166.8	FIJI BANK	3140	3120	3120	SANYO ELEC	647	652	SANYO ELEC	647	652
HORTEN	205.0	208.0	FIJI PHOTO	3200	3220	3220	SEIYU ST.	1970	1970	SEIYU ST.	1970	1970
HUSSEL HL	472.0	465.0	FIJISAMA	1610	1660	1660	SEKISUI PB	1760	1750	SEKISUI PB	1760	1750
KALI SALZ	161.0	158.0	FUJITA CP	769	769	769	SHARP	990	998	SHARP	990	998
KARSTADT	457.0	455.0	FUJITRI	1490	1500	1500	SHISEIDO	1470	1460	SHISEIDO	1470	1460
KAUFHOF	423.0	426.0	G-ICHT	1920	1940	1940	SONY	6100	6210	SONY	6100	6210
KLOECK H	138.0	140.0	HONDA MOT	1920	1940	1940	SPOTEC	2100	2090	SPOTEC	2100	2090
KLOECK W	101.7	101.5	ISETAN	2090	2050	2050	SUNITOMO	1100	1110	SUNITOMO	1100	1110
LINDE	712.0	709.0	ITO YOKADO	3970	4000	4000	TAISEI	1100	1100	TAISEI	1100	1100
LUFTHANSA	153.5	152.0	JAP SYR	925	940	940	TAISHO MRN	1290	1280	TAISHO MRN	1290	1280
MAN	213.0	213.5	JAPAN AIR	1330								

Sterling dives

Dollar sinks and gold eases slightly

LONDON, Oct 21. (Reuter): The dollar sank today to its lowest values in four months, forfeiting most gains made in a strong summer rally.

Wall Street stocks were also lower at New York's midday.

Investors seem to have decided that the risk of inflation is no longer so strong in the United States as to warrant a rise in interest rates that would make dollar assets a better buy.

And news of a smaller-than-expected September rise of 0.3 per cent in US consumer prices seemed to confirm that.

Dealers said they had expected the dollar to slip in coming weeks. When they tried selling it on Friday and central banks failed to buy and stabilise it, they sold some more.

Movement

"A slow, ordered downward movement of the dollar is in everybody's interest at the moment," a European dealer said.

Among other things, it should help America sell more exports, something which dealers speculate that the next US administration will want. The US monthly trade deficit was \$12.2 billion in August, up from \$9.7 billion in July.

The dollar ended in London at 1.7795 marks and 126.32 yen.

That was down just over two pence and more than a yen from Thursday and the lowest since June 22.

The dollar touched 1.92 marks and rose above 136 yen in late

August/early September. Despite its subsequent decline, it remains comfortably above historic lows of 1.5615 and 120.20 at which it began the year.

Sterling also slipped, losing more than three pence to 3.1460 marks, after Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson said in a speech on Thursday night he expected Britain's trade deficit would stay high until 1990.

Gold eased slightly to a London afternoon setting at \$410.25 an ounce, as inflation worries abated. Oil prices, a major factor determining inflation, were a touch firmer around \$13.60 for a barrel of typical North Sea Brent crude.

The oil market was cautious while key OPEC ministers were meeting in Madrid to try to find a strategy to curb the excess output which has weakened petroleum prices lately.

In the stock markets, the Dow Jones industrial average on Wall Street was down 7.29 at 2,173.90 at New York's midday but buyer interest was reviving, brokers said.

The interest was in takeover stocks after Thursday's news that an RJR Nabisco Management Group wants to make a \$17-billion bid for the American tobacco and food giant.

In London the widely predicted early fall on Wall Street saw the London market fall further in afternoon trade and by 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 was down a net 5.4 points at 1,858.9, having

drifted down from an opening 1,870.6.

Sterling's fall and a subsequent rise in UK money market rates also undermined sentiment, but the majority of dealers were still positive for UK equities in the near-term.

Dealers said there were no surprises for the market in British Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson's speech last night, and that the small dips in stock prices mainly represented a consolidation of recent gains.

"There has been perhaps too much excitement over the recent batch of bids given underlying fundamentals," one equity trader said. "It's about time we saw some consolidation."

This afternoon, an Irish judge ruled in favour of French drinks concern Pernod Ricard in its 450p per share takeover battle for the whiskey maker Irish Distillers. Irish Distillers shares were suspended this morning at 414p.

Hotels and drinks group Grand Metropolitan, which has a 525p per share counter bid pending for Irish Distillers, held steady at 400p.

British Airways was a penny lower at 167p following news it

had ordered \$1.78 billion worth of aircraft from Boeing.

Boeing shares in New York were trading 50 cents lower at \$67 but this was against the background of the fall on Wall Street. "Considering Wall Street is down so much I think Boeing is performing well," one US share trader here said.

Rolls-Royce, which is to provide £185 million worth of engines to fill the British Airways order added 4p to 138.

Eased

Lonrho shares eased a net 8p to 371 in the wake of news that Australia's Bond Corp had built up a near 15 per cent stake in the company. There has been recent strong speculation that Bond was building a substantial stake and most analysts believe he is far from being a passive investor.

Some 12 million Lonrho shares traded today which means that over 110 million shares, about a quarter of the total Lonrho equity, have changed hands this week.

Lonrho shares touched a high of 392p just after the announcement but eased off quickly as investors had second thoughts about Bond's holding.

Stake

"People obviously initially thought that a stake of that size pointed to a bid. But a perception that the shares are expensive and Bond may have trouble funding a full offer quickly saw the shares fall back," one analyst said.

Minorco bid target Cons Gold lost just 15p of yesterday's 55p

gain to 1,260 with the shares still supported by speculation that the bid will not run into an official objection.

Glaxo failed to hold onto its earlier 13p gain but the shares still closed 7p up at 1,130 on hopes for a bigger market for its Zantac anti-ulcer drug after a favourable new report on the drug in the British medical journal.

Fashion stores group Next was 3p off at 178 after selling its Allens chemist chain to Lloyds Chemist for \$29.3 million.

Analysts said although the sale helped to improve Next's gearing it was rather too small to have a material impact. Lloyds Chemist was 3p higher at 145, but traders said they would not be surprised to see Lloyds issue paper to raise cash.

Firm

Food manufacturers and tobacco stocks were generally firm on a revaluation of the sectors after the \$17 billion management buy-out plan for US food and cigarette company RJR Nabisco.

Redland rose 5p to 450 and 1CI 3p to 1,061, both ahead of figures next week.

Foods to textiles group Polly Peck lost 7p at 310 after news of a £133 million one-for-four rights issue to fund expansion.

British Aerospace was 2p firmer at 496 helped by news late yesterday that its Rover car subsidiary won an order worth about £540 million from Avis Rent-A-Car.

Jordan supply minister vows to crack down on profiteers

AMMAN, Oct 21. (Reuter): Jordanian Supply Minister Abdelsalam Kan'an vowed today to crack down on any profiteering traders exploiting the drop in the dinar's value.

"Legal action will be taken against any wholesale and retail suppliers or merchants who try to exploit the current position by raising prices on commodities which are already in stock," Kan'an told Reuters. "Violators will face severe punishment."

He said his ministry had already taken legal action against some traders who had tried to take advantage of what he called "temporary unstable market circumstances."

Value

The dinar has lost almost 15 per cent of its dollar value since Saturday when the Central Bank let the currency slide in a bid to conserve scarce foreign exchange and boost exports.

The Central Bank now values the dollar at 443 fils, compared to 378 fils a week ago. There are 1,000 fils to a dinar.

Anxious shoppers rushed to buy consumer goods before the

items but did not normally interfere. But he added: "We shall take action if shameless merchants repeat what some of their colleagues tried to do in the past four days."

Worried

Industrialists worried about how the fluctuating dinar might affect imports of raw materials and have urged the Central Bank to set realistic exchange rates so they can trade ahead.

Some importers opened letters of credit when the dollar was worth 370 fils, but now have to settle them at 450 fils or more.

"We are committed not to change our prices now as we have not yet run out of stock," Ibrahim Abu Raghib, director of the Arab Iron and Steel Industries Company, told Reuters.

"But things will change soon as the cost of raw materials we buy is increasing and foreign exchange rates are not stable."

Royal Jordanian, the national airline, is studying increases in ticket prices, a spokesman said. Hotels, hospitals and other service businesses plan to follow suit.

Britain refuses to compensate Barlow Clowes investors

LONDON, Oct 21. (Reuter): The British government on Thursday refused to compensate thousands of small investors who lost money when a fund management firm collapsed earlier this year.

Trade and Industry Minister Lord Young said that an independent report which he had ordered into his ministry's dealings with the Barlow Clowes fund management group showed there was no reason for the government to make any payments to investors.

He told the House of Lords, the upper house of Parliament, there were "no grounds for concluding that the trade department's handling of the matter was unreasonable or caused losses experienced by investors..."

So there was "no justification to use taxpayers' money to fund compensation."

British-based Barlow Clowes Fund Managers Ltd and Barlow Clowes International, which operated in the British colony of Gibraltar, were closed down in May.

An estimated £190 million (\$334 million) is owed to

thousands of clients, most of them small investors including pensioners who put in their life savings.

Peter

Clowes, who headed the fund operation, was charged in Britain on June 15 with perverting the course of justice, creating false documents and destroying other papers in connection with the collapse. He has denied any wrongdoing.

Fund

An official receiver has said about £52.5 million (\$92.4 million) is available to meet claims on the British fund of up to £53.2 million (\$93.6 million).

But up to £16 million (\$28.2 million) of the money raised may be due to investors in the Gibraltar-based fund, which collapsed with estimated client funds of about £138 million (\$242.9 million).

Lord Young said investors in the British fund were likely to receive more than 75 per cent of their money before the end of the year. Those who put money in the Gibraltar fund might eventually get more than 30 per cent of their investment.

Dolman said the 7,000 investors in the British fund may get part of their money back but the 14,000 who put their faith in the Gibraltar fund had less hope of recovering their cash.

World trade growth accelerates

GENEVA, Oct 21. (AP): Growth of world trade has accelerated to an annual average of 5 per cent this year, a GATT report said yesterday. Last year's growth was about 4 per cent.

The report, compiled by the secretariat of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), also forecast global economic growth at 3.5 per cent in 1988.

It noted that the improvement was marked although many developing countries continued to be faced with balance of payments problems and difficulties in servicing their foreign debts and although uncertainties about interest rate trends and commodity prices remain.

Trends

The reported resumption of export growth in a number of heavily indebted countries and generally greater exchange stability among factors.

"If these trends continue, and are supported by appropriate

monetary and financial policies including those relating to the reduction of the debt burden, a particularly favourable climate would exist for progress in trade policy field," it commented.

The report also listed a proliferation of "voluntary" export restraints negotiated with individual supplying countries that otherwise would face quantitative restrictions.

Concern also was voiced by several countries, including the United States, Japan, Australia and Hong Kong at the European Economic Community's programme to achieve a single unified market by 1992, the source said.

The EEC delegate Tran Van Thinh said creation of the market would allow an annual growth of 5 to 7 per cent of the EEC economy while not having one would cost the community about 220 billion ECUs (about \$191 billion) a year. The source said Tran did not elaborate in his statement on how he arrived at this estimate.

US consumer prices rise 0.3pc

WASHINGTON, Oct 21. (Reuter): US consumer prices rose 0.3 per cent in September, after a 0.4 per cent rise in August, as lower energy costs offset a rise in food prices caused by this summer's drought, the government said today.

The unexpected slowdown in the inflation rate was welcome news for Vice-President George Bush in his race for the White House and for Federal Reserve policy-makers, who nudged interest rates higher over the summer in a bid to curb mounting price pressures.

If consumer prices continued to rise at the seasonally adjusted pace of the first nine months of 1988, the inflation rate for the full year would be 4.5 per cent, compared with 4.4 per cent in 1987, the Labour Department said.

Increase

Economists, who had expected a 0.4 per cent increase in September, said the dip in the rate would give some breathing room to Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan as he strives to keep interest rates at a level that dampens inflation while keeping the 71-month-old US economic expansion alive.

The Central Bank's policy-makers will meet on Nov 1. One

week before the presidential election, and economists said the latest report made it very likely that interest rates would not be raised.

But, conversely, economists said there was little scope for easier credit, especially with the dollar falling once again against other major currencies.

If the volatile categories of food and energy are removed to get at the core rate of inflation, consumer prices rose 0.4 per cent in September, twice as fast as in August.

Petrol prices fell 1.7 per cent after rising 3.0 per cent in August.

Sixty countries to take part in Baghdad fair

BAGHDAD, Oct 21. (OPEC-NA): So far, nearly 60 countries and more than 1,800 Arab and non-Arab companies have agreed to take part in the 25th Baghdad international trade fair opening here on Nov 1.

A source at the Iraqi trade fairs directorate said this year's jubilee anniversary of the fair would attract a record number of countries and firms.

The two-week event, to be attended by industrial manufacturers from all over the world, will provide Iraq with an opportunity to demonstrate the progress it has made in industry, agriculture and technology.

New facilities, the source said, had been offered to the participants this year, with each pavilion allowed to sell \$100,000 worth of semi-manufactured goods and \$30,000 worth of consumer items.

UK trade team to visit Iraq

LONDON, Oct 21. (KUNA): A British cabinet minister will lead a UK delegation to Baghdad next month for a meeting of the Anglo-Iraqi joint commission which oversees trade between the two countries, it was confirmed today.

The commission will meet from Nov 4-7 and heading the British team will be the Minister of State at the British Department of Trade and Industry, Tony Newton.

A spokeswoman for the department said the 10-member British delegation will also include officials from the British Overseas Trade.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Oct 21. (Reuter): The market closed firm but off the day's high as profit-takers moved to cash in on gains of the past trading days. The All Ordinaries index rose three to 1,594.2.

TOKYO: Share prices gradually shaved off their earlier gains through the day to end near the day's low. The Nikkei index rose 10.87 to 27,401.42.

HONG KONG: Stocks gave up early gains to close barely steady, following heavy profit-taking on unfavourable technical factors and uncertainty over the outlook for prices. The Hang Seng index fell 2.35 to 2,581.69.

SINGAPORE: Prices closed firm, with gains across the board following institutional buying support and widespread bargaining spurred by Thursday's Wall Street rally. The Straits Times industrial index rose 16.09 to 1,038.42.

BOMBAY: Share prices shot up on a broad front on heavy speculative and institutional buying when trading resumed after a two-day halt. Tata Steel

soared 40 rupees to 987.5.

FRANKFURT: Prices closed easier in sluggish trading after the weaker dollar prompted investors to take profits and square their positions before the weekend. The DAX index fell 5.49 to 1,289.72.

ZURICH: Shares closed firmer on high turnover after Wall Street overnight reached its highest level since the crash. The Swiss index rose eight to 938.2, a high for the year.

PARIS: Prices continued their opening strong tone at mid-session but some profit-taking pushed them off their highs of the morning.

LONDON: The widely predicted early fall on Wall Street saw the London market drop further in afternoon trading. By 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 was down 5.4 at 1,858.9.

NEW YORK: Stocks in mid-morning were around their lows of the session but held steady as selling let up. Traders blamed disappointment over digital equipment's quarterly results.

World Bank's top economist sanguine about inflation

UNITED NATIONS, Oct 21, (Reuter): The

From 'shy Di' to assertive woman

Has Princess Diana been reined in?

By Georgia Howell

IT IS tempting to believe that in a high-security wing of Buckingham Palace, there is a secret Operations Room like those seen in black-and-white films about the Battle of Britain.

Here a nucleus of mysterious but powerful personnel push coroneted flags around on a spotlit tabletop, advancing one member of the royal family into the limelight, withdrawing another, working out strategies and disposing of royal resources so as to deflect perpetual offensive by squads of hostile fighters from the tabloid press.

In this movie tableau, the most significant figure is always the controller at the high central desk, who survey the battlefield and masterminds the deployment of forces in the field.

Fanciful as this scenario may seem, the radical turnaround in only one year of the relative positions of the two royal stars, the Princess of Wales and the Duchess of York, is hard to explain through the course of natural events alone. Then, as the 12-year gap between the Waleses made itself increasingly evident, a restless Diana sought to counter her husband's absence by asserting herself as provocatively as she knew how.

Contrast

By contrast, Sarah seemed a breath of fresh air, dashing, independent, able to captivate the crowd with a quick word and a snort of laughter. For a time she eclipsed her beautiful sister-in-law, who seemed in real danger of becoming typecast as the royal misfit.

Today, Diana is firmly back in the centre of the picture. Her 27th birthday, brought accolades from all sections of the press for "star quality" and "unassuming charm": she is, they said, "the best thing to happen to the royals ... the feminine idea." Her new composure is hard-won, and stems from her decision to do as royal women so often have, and make the best of a cool marriage instead of fighting it. Sarah, on the other hand, has been temporarily disinvited as a leading role player in the family saga.

There are several reasons why the Duchess of York has been under a cloud recently. She did not wear her pregnancy as pretty as the Princess of Wales, and she had to put up with a naval husband's long absences from home. But the duchess has undoubtedly suffered most from the scandal of her father's reported visit to a massage and sex parlour.

Unfair

It is particularly unfair that Major Ferguson's predicament should have rebounded on his daughter, for it also highlighted her best qualities: loyalty and courage.

In her first public engagement since the birth of her daughter, Sarah flew with the 1,000-mile round trip from Balmoral to be with him on his final appearance at Smith's Lawn as deputy chairman of the Guards' Polo Club. Sarah might have won considerable sympathy from the world at large were it not for the fact that the resemblance between father and daughter is rather too marked to be flattering. "Sarah's so brash" is a common reaction. "Like father, like daughter."

The Fergie set, on whom the duchess relies for company when Prince Andrew is away, is a noisy, energetic group that the new, grown-up Diana might find a little immature.

A banging of car doors and shouted badinage herald the almost nightly arrival of eight or nine of them — a brace of interior decorators, a wine merchant and a banker, an importer of ski clothes, a giftshop proprietor — at one of Fulham's trendy pasta restaurants.

It was with a similar set that Diana and Fergie dressed up as policewomen and attempted to gatecrash Prince Andrew's stag night. The Queen was definitely not amused.

When Prince Edward organised a charity event around the rowdy television game, It's A Knockout, into which Sarah was preparing to throw herself body and soul, the Ops Room made its move and viewers had to be content with the sight of the royals in fancy dress cheering on the contestants from the sidelines. As Sarah became progressively more raucous, the princess drew apart and pulled ahead.

Diana has obviously changed a great deal. You can see it in her appearance. She has abandoned skin-tight leathers and puffed minis, platinum rinses and bootlace ties. Lately

After last year's escapades and speculative rumours about her marriage to Prince Charles, Princess Diana appears to have found a new composure and confidence.



She has displayed a new, grown-up elegance to go with her new grown-up outlook.

At Ascot last year, a flushed Diana and Sarah giggled their way round the royal enclosure, poking acquaintances in the bottom with their umbrellas; this year a smiling Diana made her way serenely through the crowds, cool in a cut-away grey silk morning coat and white straw hat.

Unruly

In retrospect it is easy to see that much of her unruly behaviour of that early period was an outlet for confusion. The inexperienced bride of a man who was already middle-aged, she could only compare her marriage with Sarah's.

Prince Andrew's perfect female equivalent, Sarah, was cued to be her closest companion, and her sister-in-law's breezy independence brought home what she herself had missed by progressing in two quick steps from school to marriage and motherhood.

Caught off-balance at a vital moment laid down the future rules of the relationship, one which is to be no different from so many royal relationships that have gone before: discretion in public, separate lives in private, courtesy and pleasant behaviour in domestic life.

At the time, it was easy to conclude that the princess' defiant outings without her husband to showbiz and rock music events were escapades from oppressive etiquette and family strictures.

But the feeling among the outer royal circle today is that perhaps Diana did not get enough guidance after all, and had to feel her way slowly to a life of her own.

Role models are not easy to



Then and now: a matronly Princess Diana (above) and the 'shy Di' who married Prince Charles in 1981.

find for a 20th century princess. Yet she would not have had to look far to see her uncertainties mirrored in other lives around her.

Looking among the royal line-up, she would recognise aspects of her own dilemmas — and as for the other royal marriages, she would find an odd array of compliance and compromise. Who could have predicted that the churlish Princess Anne would turn into the exemplary workaholic performer of 130 public duties a year; that the egomaniacal Princess Michael of Kent would disappear abruptly from the headlines until she had learned to toe the line? Most of all, that the brilliant, racy Princess Margaret, the Elizabeth Taylor of the royal family, should be recast as the invisible dowager aunt?

In the stories of each of these princesses, there seems to have come a moment when the Ops

Room intervened. The action taken seldom needed to be more than a word spoken, an uncomfortable quarter-of-an-hour endured. That touch of the rudder was enough to bring the proudest transgressor to heel.

Prince Charles, however, was less flexible, more determined than the other royal men. He simply assumed that he would continue on the course he had painfully mapped out on his own so long ago.

He had little inclination to shield Diana by playing the heavy husband to a giggling 25-year-old. Burdened with his own introspections, he withdrew to the royal equivalent of the potting shed: the Kalahari, Tuscany, Cornwall and Scotland.

Distance

As the distance between the Waleses widened last summer, autumn found Prince Charles alone at Balmoral, Diana struggling to deal with her husband's loss of attention. She attempted to recapture it with ploys that would have succeeded in a romantic novel. At the wedding dance of the Marquess of Worcester, she spent the evening dancing with old Etonian banker Philip Dunne — and continued to do so long after Charles had left.

The following week she attended a pop concert with David Waterhouse, a major in the Household Cavalry and a nephew of the Duke of Marlborough. What emerges clearly in retrospect is that she was not in the least interested in either of these men other than as pleasant escorts.

The chill carried on into late autumn when Prince Charles attended the wedding of Lady Amanda Knatchbull, granddaughter of his mentor, the late Earl Mountbatten, without

Diana. "The royal break" was the press verdict and nothing that happened in the following weeks served to dampen the rumour.

While the press pursued the red herring of a princess rebelling against the boredom of life with a man older than his years, the reality was poignantly different. The princess was not waving but drowning. She found herself in a painful dilemma, for the galling truth was that despite her beauty and style, she bored her husband.

And she was faced in her mid-twenties with something she found chilling to contemplate: a fairy-tale marriage that had cooled into an arrangement. Young and naive, she did the worst thing possible. She tried to make her husband jealous. The bad publicity that ensued only succeeded in driving him further away.

It was not long after that, on the eve of an official visit to West Germany that would bring the Waleses together in public for the first time in many weeks, that the Ops Room made a rare visible manoeuvre.

Summoned

The Queen summoned Charles and Diana to Buckingham Palace late one evening after both had carried out separate public attendances. The interview lasted 20 minutes. It is a measure of the Queen's command of situations that during the German visit Charles and Diana displayed a mutual respect and ease that had not been seen for a long time.

How many could have played the Queen's role that evening without worsening the situation? Diana, who used to say she was "petrified" of the Queen, must have arrived with a sinking heart, and her mother-in-law evidently treated her with the sensitivity required by a nervous Derby horse.

It is not too much to say that, while the marriage may never regain its first warmth, things have improved between the Waleses ever since.

Adjusting, adapting, keeping her balance, Diana is learning to move in step with her husband. At the same time, she would like him to lighten up a little. In a sense, the dancing video of herself that she presented to her astonished husband on their seventh wedding anniversary last July was a tease, a provocative insistence on all the qualities she has that attract but also alienate him.

On his side, once he had been reassured that there was only one copy of the video in circulation, and once he had grimaced at yet another reminder of her tireless passion for Phantom of the Opera, he might have been touched, as she meant, by the title she had chosen: "All I Ask of You".

In London, these days, Diana swims in the Buckingham Palace pool and plays tennis at the fashionable Vanderbilt club. She loves to play country house bridge, which brings her into contact with groups of varying ages.

She still takes lessons with the Festival Ballet. At the same time, her public duties have increased, she maintains a programme of touring drug abuse centres around the country, and she privately visits Dr Barnardo's orphans.

Romance

Not long ago she called in at the foster home of a 14-year-old with a disturbed past: the princess waiting for her in the front room, with a bunch of flowers.

These days, the Waleses and the Yorks are no longer in each other's pockets. As Sarah asserts her trump card — her independence by deciding to leave the baby at home, during her Australian tour she underlines another difference between the sisters-in-law. It is hard to imagine the Princess of Wales making a similar decision without being miserable.

As far as the Ops Room is concerned, this cooler and more independent Princess of Wales is beginning to respond to the time-honoured grooming process. Diana has weathered the first seven years of royal marriage and come out of them well, but there is still a long way to go.

She only lacks romance. The danger lies in the fact that she may find it. If she does, it will be in the form of one of the attractive and entertaining men for whom her friends ransack London when she's coming unaccompanied to dinner.

Somewhere, in some Filofax on a chintz-draped table in Pimlico or Chelsea, are the name and telephone of the man who may one day throw the Ops Room into a frenzy of anxiety.

Last year's unruly behaviour with her sister-in-law at Ascot generated a lot of criticism.



Paloma Picasso: a personality in her own right

Picasso: creator and daughter

By Colin McDowell

PABLO PICASSO was no slouch when it came to getting his own way and neither is his daughter. Even when she was young, although she claims she was terribly shy, she was quite the little madam.

She recalls how she insisted

on wearing scarlet lipstick and painting her nails for her first day at school. She always liked

to do things Paloma's way.

She is still doing things

Paloma's way but on a global

scale now. Internationally suc-

cessful figures travel endlessly

and Paloma Picasso is right up

there in the big league, clocking

up an enormous number of air

miles each year.

When she met her in London

she had just flown in from

Milan, was off to Paris the next

day, on to New York and then

back to Europe the following

week. But she has energy

enough to cope — and then

some more. It is fuelled by a

belief in the work ethic and an

iron determination to make her

own mark.

Worker

"My father was a worker,"

she explains. "When he died

and we started going through

everything we just could not

believe it. There was so much.

We kept wondering how one

group of varying ages.

She still takes lessons with the

Festival Ballet. At the same

time, her public duties have

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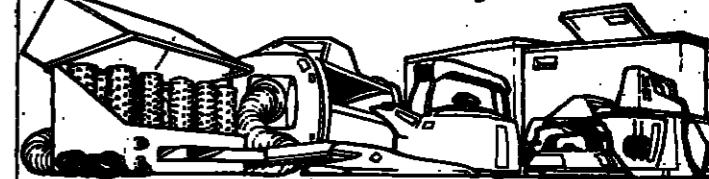
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SPORTS

Amputee sets world records

EOUL, South Korea, Oct 21, (Agencies): American amputee sprinter Dennis Oehler, who won the men's 100-metre and 200-metre dashes, added one more gold medal today when he won the 400-metre race at the 8th Paralympics in Seoul.

Oehler, 28, won the 400-metre race with a world record of 56.25 seconds. His record bettered the previous world mark of 1:01.09.

Adrian Lowe, a 16-year-old Australian, won the silver medal with 1:00.80.

Oehler, who lost his right leg below the knee in a 1984 traffic accident, became the world's fastest amputee athlete on Tuesday when he won the 100-metre dash in 11.73 seconds.

Only Romania, impressive 3-1 winners over Bulgaria in Sofia, scored more than two goals while England were jeered from the field after being held 0-0 by Sweden at Wembley, scene of their 1966 World Cup triumph.

Although the Dutch will forever cherish the European title they won in Munich on June 26 by beating the Soviet Union 2-0, an end to their World Cup frustrations would provide at least equal satisfaction.

The Netherlands have lost in the qualifying rounds of the last two World Cups, having reached the final of the 1974 and 1978 competitions, and this time have to finish ahead of West German in European Group Four to be certain of a place in Italy in 1990.

Meanwhile, a discus thrower won Egypt's first gold medal and West German amputee added to his country's top medal standing at the Games today.

Mohamed Abdulla Mohamed, struck by polio at a year old, captured a gold medal and broke disabled sport's world discus record by nearly four metres with a 36.68-metre throw. "I came to make a new record," he said. "Now I have problems because I have to keep it."

Mohamed, a first-time Paralympic competitor, also won a bronze medal in the shot-put event, leaving Egypt tied for last place with two medals.

By today, West Germany had a firm hold on first place with 54 golds, 40 silvers and 29 bronzes.

Javelin thrower Hubert Burckens, 45, later added a gold. He lost his legs below the knee when he fell under a train in 1964.

American Billy Demby, a Vietnam veteran who came seventh in the javelin event, said: "I think (able-bodied athletes) would be surprised at the competition you find here."

RESULTS of Sheraton Bridge Club game held on Tuesday:

N/S

1. Daroo & Rabinov

2. Dr Al Zaid & Ibrahim Qattas

3. Dr. Sami & Ammar EIW

1. Salman Ali & Carsten Bonkens & Harris

3. Mrs Saper & Imam Ali

Results of the Regency Palace Bridge Club game held on Sunday, Oct 16:

1. Jaya & Ravi Saper

2. Hiba Mousalli & Ahmed Tawil

3. Darush Mankirjee & J. Gajjar

Results of the Mensah Ladies Bridge Club game held on Monday, Oct 10:

1. Jamil Akef & Marwa El-Whitaker

2. Rabab Abdu & Nicole Iskander

3. Fatima Abu-Shakr & Fatima Abu-Shakr

Results of the Regency Palace Ladies Bridge Club game held on Wednesday, Oct 12:

1. Nabil Akef & Lollo Muthwate

2. Rabab Abdu & Nicole Iskander

3. Fatima Abu-Shakr & Nadia Almoudi

Results of the Regency Palace Ladies Bridge Club game held on Wednesday, Oct 13:

1. Nabil Akef & Lollo Muthwate

2. Sonja Banany & Randa Firas

3. Margaret Maynard & Daphne El-Saad

ENGLAND JEERED OFF THE FIELD AFTER BEING HELD BY SWEDEN**W. Germans hold Dutch to goalless draw**

MUNICH, West Germany, (Reuters): The Netherlands missed the inspiration of Ruud Gullit when they returned to Munich on Wednesday seeking a World Cup victory that would have meant almost as much to them as their European Championship triumph in the same city in June.

The goalless draw between two of the game's most powerful teams was one of 11 World Cup qualifying matches in Europe, most of them close-fought contests in which teams were disillusioned to risk too much.

Only Romania, impressive 3-1 winners over Bulgaria in Sofia, scored more than two goals while England were jeered from the field after being held 0-0 by Sweden at Wembley, scene of their 1966 World Cup triumph.

Although the Dutch will forever cherish the European title they won in Munich on June 26 by beating the Soviet Union 2-0, an end to their World Cup frustrations would provide at least equal satisfaction.

The Netherlands have lost in the qualifying rounds of the last two World Cups, having reached the final of the 1974 and 1978 competitions, and this time have to finish ahead of West German in European Group Four to be certain of a place in Italy in 1990.

Meanwhile, a discus thrower won Egypt's first gold medal and West German amputee added to his country's top medal standing at the Games today.

Mohamed Abdulla Mohamed, struck by polio at a year old, captured a gold medal and broke disabled sport's world discus record by nearly four metres with a 36.68-metre throw. "I came to make a new record," he said. "Now I have problems because I have to keep it."

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Javelin thrower Hubert Burckens, 45, later added a gold. He lost his legs below the knee when he fell under a train in 1964.

American Billy Demby, a Vietnam veteran who came seventh in the javelin event, said: "I think (able-bodied athletes) would be surprised at the competition you find here."



Denmark's John Holt (right) and Greece's Stelios Manolas in action in their match on Wednesday. (Reuter wirephoto)



The Netherlands' Erwin Koeman goes flying over West Germany's Thomas Berthold. (Reuter wirephoto)

Had they beaten the Germans on Wednesday, they would have been difficult to dislodge from the top of the section but without the invention and flair of the injured Gullit they were left to share the spoils.

The moment the Dutch will rue most was when Marco van Basten, from nearly the same spot he created a wondrous goal against the Soviet Union in June, contrived to lift the ball over the

bar and so waste the best chance of the match.

The crucial return game takes place next April after which the Netherlands should know whether their World Cup ambitions have been thwarted yet again.

The other two teams in Group Four — Wales and Finland drew 2-2 in Swansea, a frustrating result for the Welsh after they

came back from conceding an

early goal and would have won had not Dean Saunders produced a weak penalty effort in the 82nd minute.

The Soviet Union, who contributed in full to a memorable European final, rebounded from the indignity of being held to a 1-1 draw by Iceland at the start of their World Cup campaign in August by defeating Austria 2-0 in a Group Three game in Kiev.

Alexander Zavarov, currently

a citizen of Turin where he has

caught the imagination of the Juventus supporters, scored the second Soviet goal in the 69th minute after Alexei Mikhailichenko gave the home team the lead.

East Germany won the other Group Three game, Andreas Thom scoring a goal in each half to delight the East Berlin crowd and send Iceland home empty-handed.

With the Australian leading 6-

5 in the final set, the pressure told on Gomez, who ploughed two returns into the net and then double-faulted to lose the match after two hours and eight minutes.

Fitzgerald meets Edberg in the semifinals.

Bowing

Japan's number one Shuzo Matsuoka put up a spirited fight before bowing out to in-form American Richard Matuszewski 6-4 6-7 5-7.

The Ecuadorian, chastising himself in Spanish, throwing his rackets away and pointing toward heaven, gave away more points than the Australian in a match fought with errors on both sides.

World number three Edberg had to sprint, lunge and leap for his points against Chamberlin, whose form belied his ranking of 252nd.

Chamberlin unleashed three aces against none from Edberg.

In the first set both players kept their service until the 12th game when Edberg struck three fierce forehands and then won with top-spin backhand landing inches inside the tramlines.

Sixth-seeded Australian John Fitzgerald scored an upset win over third seed Andres Matuszewski 6-4 6-7 5-7.

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Fitzgerald meets Edberg in the

semifinals.

Claim

Lawyer Raoul Felder, known as the king of New York divorce cases, told a news conference this evening and tomorrow for the World Contract Bridge Team Olympiad championship.

The United States defeated India, 190-126, in a semifinal yesterday. Austria, down 20-7 points at the outset because of a carryover from the round-robin match, came from behind to oust Sweden, 182-131.

In the women's Olympiad, Denmark put an end to Bulgaria's hopes of winning a world championship on its first try. Bulgaria, which joined the World Bridge Federation only four weeks ago, lost, 186-112.

In the only close match of the day, Britain, down by one point with four deals to go, edged Canada, 166-149. Since Britain and Denmark did not play each other in the round-robin, there will be no carryover in their 64-deal final.

The United States, however, will start with a good-sized edge over Austria.

Felder said she would drop her

money where her mouth is. She is putting \$10 million where her mouth is," he said, referring to Tyson's alleged fortune of \$20 million — of which she could have claimed up to half.

They seemed to go through an endless series of public spats that included a car crash prompting claims Tyson had been trying to commit suicide and Tyson rages in both a Moscow hotel suite and the couple's New Jersey mansion.

Dundee (left) treats Leonard's eye during his fight against Tommy Hearns in 1981. (Reuter filephoto)

Dundee (left) treats Leonard's eye during his fight against Tommy Hearns in 1981. (Reuter filephoto)

Leonard and Dundee split after twelve years

NEW YORK, Oct 21, (Reuters): Sugar Ray Leonard has split with long-time trainer Angelo Dundee in a dispute over money less than three weeks before the American fighter attempts to add two more titles to his list of accomplishments.

Leonard, who will challenge Canadian Donny Lalonde for his World Boxing Council light-heavyweight crown and the newly created WBC super-middleweight title on November 7 in Las Vegas, acknowledged the split on Wednesday.

Leonard rejected the statement that he was just too slow to be a good Major League hitter. But he certainly appeared so this week.

"He threw one fastball that came in over the plate zipped out and came back in. He threw a slider that looked like a perfect strike and the bottom fell out and I swung and it was nowhere anywhere," Canseco said.

Rejected

The Championship was the sixth for the Dodgers' franchise, the only team to win the World Series twice in the 1980's. They beat the New York Yankees in two consecutive years.

Hershiser rejected the statement that he was just too slow to be a good Major League hitter. But he certainly appeared so this week.

"I feel like I'm climbing a mountain everyday out there. It's very, very difficult pitching in the big leagues. It's a war out there."

"I did struggle at times. I overthrew. When we got the lead I threw changeups and off-speed stuff," Hershiser said.

Both hits were homers — Can-

Rodion Catamaru also scored twice in Romania's win in Sofia, a result which took the Romanians straight to the top of Group One ahead of Denmark and Greece who drew 1-1 in Athens. Flemming Poulsen salvaged a deserved point for the Danes after Tasos Mitropoulos gave Greece a 41st-minute lead.

Gary Lineker squandered the only two chances created by England and it was left to Poland to take the early lead in Group Two with a 1-0 win over Albania in Chorzow.

Scotland edged ahead in Group Five but really needed something more from their home game against Yugoslavia than a 1-1 draw.

Charlton will relish this game, "said Aberdeen manager Alex Smith. "Charlie thrives on the big stage — in fact, the bigger the occasion, the more he will enjoy it."

Aberdeen offered the extrovert Nicholas a fresh start in January after he was dropped from Arsenal's first team early last season.

The 26-year-old striker, unhappy with the constant glare of publicity which his playboy image attracted in London, has repaid the Scottish club by rediscovering his finest form just in time for Sunday's final.

Success
Nicholas scored the winner in a League match against Rangers two weeks ago but the former Scottish international said the victory did not guarantee Aberdeen success at Hampden Park on Sunday.

"We still have to go to Hampden and try to beat Rangers again in front of their own fans," he said. "We are certainly not in awe of Rangers but they must still be favourites."

Rangers have won the trophy for the last two years, beating Aberdeen on penalties 12 months ago with the winner scored by Ian Duran.

Midfielder Durrant will miss Sunday's final after needing knee surgery because of a fierce tackle by Aberdeen's Neil Simpson in the bad-tempered Premier Division match two weeks ago.

Durrant will be out of action for at least 12 months. Simpson, recovered from a hamstring injury, will be back for the final and Nicholas voiced the hope that both sides would be well behaved.

"I hope the final will not be a grudge match," he said. "That's the last thing we want and everyone will have to show common sense."

Because of the Cup final, tomorrow's Premier Division programme has been reduced to three matches. With Rangers and Aberdeen, out of League action, Dundee United have the chance to move up into second place if they beat St Mirren at home.

Offence
In England, the top teams are beset with problems. Champions Liverpool, who have six players on the injury list and saw Dane Jan Molby jailed for a motoring offence this week, have signed promising teenager David Burrows in a bid to plug their threadbare defence.

Burrows, 19, could make his debut at Anfield against Coventry tomorrow after the £50,000 (\$880,000) transfer from West Bromwich Albion.

But Northern Ireland international Mal Donaghy's transfer came too late for the defender to help his new club, Manchester United, at Wimbledon. United manager Alex Ferguson is also facing the problem of finding a goalkeeper with both Jim Leighton and reserve Gary Walsh injured.

Liverpool may be only a shadow of the side which made a record-equalling start to last season but they can still inspire fear in their opponents.

"You never take a visit to Anfield lightly," said Coventry manager John Sillett who escorts his side to the Liverpool ground tomorrow. "They might not be doing well at this time but you have got to

ABDULLAH OMAR RECEIVES 30-MINUTE PENALTY

Falah holds off Al Wazzan for victory

By Gail Seery

KUWAITI driver Eid Falah Al Farzan and his navigator Sadeq Ashkanani took a one minute and fifteen second victory over compatriot Tareq Al Wazzan and his navigator Khaled Khalifa in yesterday's Alghanim/BP 2000 Jeep Rally.

At one point Al Wazzan held the lead, but with a severe lack of engine power, and some courageous driving from Falah, it was inevitable that he should be relegated to second place.

Third place was taken by Mohammed Al Malki of Saudi Arabia and Tareq Al Alyan was fourth. Novice driver Hossam Al Sayafe, driving with Pepsi sponsorship, and Amjad Qutaineh as his co-driver achieved a splendid fifth place on his second rally.

Finished

The first casualty of the day was Ahmed Al Zafiri. This car has still never finished a rally, despite the unchallenged driving skill and experience of Al Zafiri. This time the engine was overheating in the early part of the first stage, and he never reached the finish boards. Al Zafiri's run of bad luck seems to be continuing, and it is a great shame that this driver has been unable to get the results he deserves.

Saudi driver Mohammed Bin Laden and his co-driver Mohammed Omar went out on stage three. "The engine was misfiring since the start. We were stuck on



Sadeq Ashkanani, Eid Falah, Khaled Khalifa and Tareq Al Wazzan take their bows.



Tareq Al Wazzan in action.

stage three with no power."

But it was Abdullah Omar, as expected, who roared into first place on the first stage, despite being slowed by sheep crossing the rally route. His car lived up to all expectations in terms of speed, and for most of the rally he was leading.

However, on stage 1 near the end of the stage his Mitsubishi Sonauto had engine management system problems, and at one point it looked as if his car was not going to make it from the flying finish to the boards. He and Qatari navigator Mubarak Al Hajri hit similar problems on stage eight, which pushed him back into eighth and last place.

Eid Falah was driving like a man possessed, rolled on stage two. "I was too fast," he grinned frankly. He and the Zayani team were very lucky that help was on hand, as a number of spectators ran forward and pushed the Range Rover back upright, and he completed the stage with little damage, even to the body work of the car. "When we rolled, I

thought, that's it," said Ashkanani. "I was lying on the floor, and Eid was in the air."

The car performed very well, but the engine was finished by the time the team made it back to the hotel — indeed, it did not look as if the car would reach the hotel at all. Even so, Falah made it to the finisher's rostrum, and has now qualified for the final in Dubai — assuming his sponsor agrees to have his car repainted in Marlboro livery.

Falah said: "I am very happy to have won this rally, but now I need a new engine." His co-driver, Sadeq Ashkanani added. "It was a very good rally, with very good stages. My driver was good, the car was good and so was the team. We have proved ourselves, and I would like to thank the organisers for a splen-

did rally."

Tareq Al Wazzan was far less than happy with his progress during the day. He was slow from the start, as his partially rebuilt engine totally failed to give him the power and acceleration he needed. It was only on the twisty, bumpy stages that he was able to make up any time. "There was absolutely no power. If I was driving the standard car it would have been better," he told the Arab Times. "There was low compression and the engine was overheating continually. It was worse than the engine I used last time — and that engine was totally finished before we used it. It was faster than this. I did my best, and the mechanics did their jobs well."

Jaber Al Marri and Abbas Al Mousawi were going splendidly

in the early stages, but a simple problem put them out of the rally on stage four, when they appeared poised to take the lead from the Sonauto. Some bolts on the drive shaft were loose — it slipped, irrevocably damaging the gearbox.

Samir Al Husseini had bad luck on stage three, Mutla'a, when his tyres burst and the car went out of control. "Mutla'a was a horrible stage," he said. It was certainly the most demanding of the rally.

Crazy

Amjad Qutaineh, co-driver to Hossam Al Sayafe said, during the rally, "No-one is as crazy as my driver. He drives on two wheels all the time." However, by the end of the event, Al Sayafe had proved that his approach worked and Amjad had changed his tune. "My driver is the best," he said. Certainly with a result like this, early in his driving career, he is showing excellent potential. "All he needs is the car," said Amjad.

Mohammad Al Malki, as the highest placed Saudi has now qualified for the Dubai final. "I am very happy, and I thank God for my result," he said.

Hassan Sarhan of Bahrain drove a splendid rally in his small Suzuki, bringing it through into sixth position.

Of the fourteen drivers who set out, eight finished. It has to be said that this rally, under the leadership of Ahmed Al Hilal has been the best event in Kuwait for some time. The stages were good, and it is to be hoped that the

improvement will continue. It was also nice to see the support of local companies Alghanim, Mesilah Beach Hotel and a pleasant change to find the Pepsi stand in the middle of the desert.

Results:

1. Eid Falah/Sadeq Ashkanani, Range Rover 1.00.50
2. Tareq Al Wazzan/Khaled Khalifa, Range Rover 0.52.58
3. Hossam Al Sayafe/Amjad Qutaineh, Suzuki, 1.15.50
4. Hassan Sarhan/Khalifa Al Ma'amri, Suzuki, 1.17.02
5. Abdullah Al Shuaib/Anwar Abu Jarwa, Land Cruiser, 1.21.15
6. Abdullah Omar/Mubarak Al Hajri, Sonauto, 1.28.36.

Al Zafiri: an early casualty

George Saryan, Range Rover 1.00.50

4. Tareq Alyan/Khalil Ali, Rocky, 1.08.27

5. Hossam Al Sayafe/Amjad Qutaineh, Suzuki, 1.15.50

6. Hassan Sarhan/Khalifa Al Ma'amri, Suzuki, 1.17.02

7. Abdullah Al Shuaib/Anwar Abu Jarwa, Land Cruiser, 1.21.15

8. Abdullah Omar/Mubarak Al Hajri, Sonauto, 1.28.36.



Abdullah Omar: penalty pushed him back

(Photos by Gail Seery and Raed Qutaineh)

Falah rolls over...

... Spectators help right the jeep...

... And off he goes.

Aussies call on Pakistan to raise game

W. Indies rout India for Sharjah final

SHARJAH, Oct 21. (Reuters): West Indies recaptured their most irresistible form today, sweeping India aside and reaching the final of the Champions Trophy cricket tournament after an opening stand of 165 by Gordon Greenidge and Desmond Haynes.

The Barbadian pair threatened to cut short the tour in disgust at umpiring decisions during the first Test which they lost by an innings. They eventually decided to play on and lost the three-Test series 1-0.

"If Pakistan is to continue to want to play at an international level, then a lot of things will have to change there," Border told journalists at Sydney airport after arriving back from the tour.

Stream

"We are not the only side which has made these complaints, there's been a never-ending stream. The Pakistani authorities have got to wake up (to the problems)," he said.

Coach Bobby Simpson said Pakistani fans knew there were problems in the way cricket was run there.

"We were spoken to by people in the streets, taxi drivers ... all of whom supported us standing up to the situation and saying they knew that things weren't being properly conducted.

"The cricket public in Pakistan knows there is a lot wrong with the game and want it cleaned up," said Simpson.

The problems in Pakistan had hardened the attitude of the Australian cricketers before their five-Test series against the West Indies, who arrive this weekend, Simpson said.

Sussex honour Imran Khan

LONDON, Oct 21. (AP): Imran Khan the former Pakistan Test captain, has been appointed an honorary life member of Sussex county cricket club in recognition of his services to the county during the past 11 seasons, it was announced today.

Sussex chairman Maurice Leadley said that it had been a unanimous decision by the club's committee to honour Imran, and described the all-rounder's services as of "immense value."

triumphs when they meet Pakistan in tomorrow's final.

West Indies, beaten in their first two matches of the three-nation event, bowled tightly and fielded superbly this time, with off-spinners Roger Harper and Carl Hooper contributing telling spells.

India were 85 for three when Harper sent back Ravi Shastri (35) while Hooper accounted for Mohammad Azharuddin (25) and Kapil Dev (0), the three wickets tumbling for eight runs.

Chandrapant Pandit (31 not out) and wicketkeeper Kiran More (30) gave the total a degree of respectability in a seventh wicket stand of 51.

The capacity crowd revelled in the West Indian reply as Haynes cracked nine fours and a six in his high-class innings lasting 121 deliveries — he won the Man-of-the-Match award — and Greenidge hit four fours and two sixes.

India's slim hopes had rested on their slow bowlers, but leg-spinner Narendra Hirwani and left-arm spinners Ravi Shastri and Maninder Singh could not stem the flow of runs.

Hirwani, who played a key role in defeating West Indies when the two teams met on the opening day of the tournament, was hit for 49 runs in his 10 overs without taking a wicket.

Scoreboard

INDIA	
K. Srikkanth c Dujon b Ambrose	6
R. Shastri c Logie b Harper	35
M. Asmarath c Dujon b Walsh	20
D. Venkateswaran c Walsh	3
M. Azharuddin c Harper b	
Hooper	25
Kapil Dev c Greenidge b Hooper	0
C. Pandit not out	31
K. More c Logie b Ambrose	30

S. Sharma not out 13

Total (seven wickets) — 50 overs) 169

5-86 6-93 7-144

Did not bat: Maninder Singh, N. Hirwani

Bowling: Patterson 9-0-39-4,

Ambrose 9-2-31-2, Walsh 6-0-19-2,

Bishop 6-0-13-4, Harper 10-0-28-1,

Hooper 10-1-33-2

WEST INDIES

G. Greenidge not out 77

D. Haynes b Sharma 85

R. Richardson c More b Sharma 0

C. Hooper not out 2

Extras (6-2 w-1 n-4) 11

Total (two wickets — 40 overs) 175

Fall of wickets: 1-165 2-165

Did not bat: A. Logie, J. Dujon, R. Harper, C. Ambrose, P. Patterson, L. Bishop, C. Walsh.

Bowling: Kapil Dev 4-0-14-0,

Shastri 6-0-32-0, Srikkanth 6-0-31-0, Hirwani

10-0-49-6, Srikkanth 4-0-18-0

Result: West Indies won by eight wickets.

Western Australia aim for Sheffield Shield hat-trick

SYDNEY, Oct 21. (Reuters): Western Australia's chances of completing a hat-trick of Sheffield Shield cricket titles this season depend largely on fast bowler Bruce Reid's fitness and Australia's form in the Test series against West Indies.

Reid, Australia's premier paceman, is to undergo an operation on a slipped disc which will definitely rule him out of his state's opening Shield game against Tasmania and possibly the first Test starting on November 18.

Called

While Western Australia's batting looks as dependable as ever, captain Graeme Wood and opener Geoff Marsh are likely to be called on for the Test matches.

Defeats by West Indies could also lead the selectors to turn to two other players in the Shield champions' team — Mike Veletta to bolster the middle order and fast-medium bowler Terry Alderman, back in Test contention after serving his three-year ban for playing in South Africa.

Players chosen for the five Tests and the one-day World Series Cup will miss most of the Shield Games in November, December and January. The Shield season starts on October 28 with two matches.

Queensland, losing Shield finalists in 1987-88, will often be deprived of Australian captain Allan Border, and must hope paceman Craig McDermott returns to full speed after injury.

Dissidents expelled

PORLAMAR, Venezuela, Oct 21. (Reuters): The World Boxing Association (WBA) yesterday voted unanimously to expel a group of dissidents who left its annual convention in a protest over election procedures and formed a rival group.

Dope testing

BUDAPEST, Oct 21. (Reuters): The International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) said today it was introducing random dope testing in a bid to clean up the sport's image after the Seoul Olympics last month.

Zola Budd

LONDON, Oct 21. (UPI): Zola Budd, the South African-born runner who quit her adopted home country of Britain to return to South Africa six months ago, was reported today as saying she wanted to run for Britain again.

Pensacola Open

PENSACOLA, Fla., Oct. 21. (Reuters): Five players shot six-under-par 66 yesterday to share the first round lead of the \$400,000 Pensacola Open golf tournament. Veterans Mark Hayes and Dan Pohl were joined by relative newcomers Billy Andrade, Kenny Perry and Lance Ten Broek in a five-way first place tie at the Tiger Point-Golf Club course.

NICOSIA, Oct 21. (Reuters): French soccer coach Henri Michel carries to Cyprus a special personal memory which he hopes will inspire his team to a convincing win in tomorrow's World Cup qualifying tie.

The batsmen found it difficult to score off De Neve and Shipton was fortunate to pick four wickets as the batsmen tried to go after his bowling.

Despite late surges from Gerald, Kharbanda and Don Wilson, British Airways fell behind the asking rate. With the game slipping away, Wilson raised the BA hopes with a wonderfully timed stroke over the long on for a six to prove that coaches can play as well as talk a good game of cricket.

However, British Airways ended on 190 all out with three deliveries to go.

Large

A large crowd witnessed this game and another large crowd is expected tomorrow when both Engineers and Don Wilson play again, this time in the Great Britain-British Airways match.

There will be a prize draw again for a BA return ticket along with other prizes donated by Yusuf Alghamid WLL Electronics Group and the Sheraton Hotel, the sponsors of this tour.

McNeil wins